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# TECHNICAL REPORT

## Relationships between Liquid Atomization and Solid Fragmentation

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Culbert B. Laney

Prepared by:  
Engility Corporation  
8211 Terminal Road  
Lorton, VA 22079

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## UNIT CONVERSION TABLE

U.S. customary units to and from international units of measurement<sup>\*</sup>

U.S. Customary Units	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> </div> Multiply by </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> </div> Divide by<sup>†</sup> </div>	International Units
<b>Length/Area/Volume</b>		
inch (in)	2.54 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	meter (m)
foot (ft)	3.048 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	meter (m)
yard (yd)	9.144 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	meter (m)
mile (mi, international)	1.609 344 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	meter (m)
mile (nmi, nautical, U.S.)	1.852 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	meter (m)
barn (b)	1 × 10 <sup>-28</sup>	square meter (m <sup>2</sup> )
gallon (gal, U.S. liquid)	3.785 412 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )
cubic foot (ft <sup>3</sup> )	2.831 685 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Mass/Density</b>		
pound (lb)	4.535 924 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	kilogram (kg)
unified atomic mass unit (amu)	1.660 539 × 10 <sup>-27</sup>	kilogram (kg)
pound-mass per cubic foot (lb ft <sup>-3</sup> )	1.601 846 × 10 <sup>1</sup>	kilogram per cubic meter (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )
pound-force (lbf avoirdupois)	4.448 222	newton (N)
<b>Energy/Work/Power</b>		
electron volt (eV)	1.602 177 × 10 <sup>-19</sup>	joule (J)
erg	1 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>	joule (J)
kiloton (kt) (TNT equivalent)	4.184 × 10 <sup>12</sup>	joule (J)
British thermal unit (Btu) (thermochemical)	1.054 350 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	joule (J)
foot-pound-force (ft lbf)	1.355 818	joule (J)
calorie (cal) (thermochemical)	4.184	joule (J)
<b>Pressure</b>		
atmosphere (atm)	1.013 250 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	pascal (Pa)
pound force per square inch (psi)	6.984 757 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	pascal (Pa)
<b>Temperature</b>		
degree Fahrenheit (°F)	[T(°F) - 32]/1.8	degree Celsius (°C)
degree Fahrenheit (°F)	[T(°F) + 459.67]/1.8	kelvin (K)
<b>Radiation</b>		
curie (Ci) [activity of radionuclides]	3.7 × 10 <sup>10</sup>	per second (s <sup>-1</sup> ) [becquerel (Bq)]
roentgen (R) [air exposure]	2.579 760 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	coulomb per kilogram (C kg <sup>-1</sup> )
rad [absorbed dose]	1 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	joule per kilogram (J kg <sup>-1</sup> ) [gray (Gy)]
rem [equivalent and effective dose]	1 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	joule per kilogram (J kg <sup>-1</sup> ) [sievert (Sv)]

<sup>\*</sup> Specific details regarding the implementation of SI units may be viewed at <http://www.bipm.org/en/si/>.

<sup>†</sup> Multiply the U.S. customary unit by the factor to get the international unit. Divide the international unit by the factor to get the U.S. customary unit.

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# On the Relationships Between Liquid and Solid Fragmentation

Culbert B. Laney<sup>1</sup>

Engility Corp., 8211 Terminal Rd, Lorton, VA 22079 U.S.A.

**Abstract.** *This paper surveys fragment size distributions found in the research literature, including specific examples of Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions. This paper finds that, in many instances, the solid and liquid fragmentation communities have independently discovered the same or similar fragment size distributions. In addition, this paper shows that the solid and liquid fragmentation communities have independently discovered nearly the same expressions for average fragment sizes. These observations are surprising, given the fundamental phenomenological differences between liquid and solid fragmentation.*

**Keywords:** fragment size distribution, Weibull size distribution, Gamma size distribution, Mott-Linfoot size distribution, Marshall-Palmer size distribution, Simmons size distribution

## 1. Introduction

At first glance, it seems that solid and liquid fragmentation have little in common. In typical cases, solids are believed to fragment via multiple propagating cracks originating at strain-induced or pre-existing microstructural flaws. For example, for impact fragmentation of solids, Wittel et. al. (2008) say: “The average size of ... fragments ... is determined by the relationship between the rate at which cracks nucleate and the velocity of the stress release wave. The higher the strain rate, the higher the crack nucleation rate and the more ... cracks are formed.”

By contrast, in typical cases, liquids are believed to fragment due to flows resulting in thin surface protrusions such as sheets, ligaments, and so forth. As these surface protrusions stretch, hydrodynamic instabilities grow until the troughs penetrate and pinch off fragments. For example, for jet atomization, Marmottant & Villermaux (2004b) say: “Liquid destabilization proceeds from a two-stage mechanism: a shear instability first forms waves on the liquid. The transient acceleration experienced by the liquid suggests that a Rayleigh–Taylor type of instability is triggered at the wave crests, producing liquid ligaments which further stretch in the air stream and break into droplets.”

In typical cases, liquids experience two-stage fragmentation due to aerodynamic forces, i.e., parent droplets created in the primary stage produce smaller children droplets in the secondary stage. The basic phenomenology of the second stage is much the same as that of the first stage. For example, Hsiang & Faeth (1992) observed: “[children] drops or ligaments are stripped from boundary layers ... that form near the liquid surface ... on the windward side of the [parent] droplet.” In some scenarios, solids can also experience multi-stage fragmentation e.g., during grinding or milling. However, this is not as common for solids as it is for liquids.

In addition, in typical cases, liquid fragments experience coagulation – the inverse of fragmentation – due to random collisions between fragments, e.g., Villermaux et. al. (2004). Solid fragments, including small asteroids and dust, may experience something similar due to

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<sup>1</sup> E-mail address: Bert.Laney@engilitycorp.com



electrostatic or van der Waals forces. However, this is not as common for solids as it is for liquids.

Despite the apparent lack of similarity between liquid and solid fragmentation, there is a long history of techniques developed for solid fragmentation being used for liquid fragmentation and, to a lesser extent, vice versa. For example, while originally developed for solid fragmentation, Liu (2000) notes that Rosin-Rammler size distributions are “perhaps the most widely used” size distributions for liquid fragmentation; see also Ashgriz (2011). Well-known subsets of Rosin-Rammler size distributions include Weibull (1939a, b) and Griffith (1943). For example, Mott & Linfoot (1943) and Grady & Kipp (1985) use Weibull distributions for solids while Marshall & Palmer (1948) and Li & Tankin (1987) use them for liquids. For another example, Grady & Kipp (1987) use Griffith distribution for solids while Tishkoff & Law (1977) use them for liquids.

More generally, this paper shows that liquid and solid fragmentation often produce similar results, both in terms of average fragment sizes and in terms of the overall fragment size distributions. Because liquid fragmentation tends to produce semi-spherical droplets, liquid fragmentation is usually described by fragment diameters. Because solid fragmentation tends to produce irregular shapes, solid fragmentation is usually described by fragment masses. These and other superficial differences often mask similarities between liquid and solid fragmentation. Building on Laney (2015a, b), this treatment includes techniques for transforming between mass and diameter, and between mass fraction and number fraction.

## 2. Basic Definitions

Let  $D$  be the fragment diameter and let  $M$  be the fragment mass. Four common ways of expressing fragment size distributions are as follows:

$F(D)$  [ $F(M)$ ] is the number fraction of fragments with diameters [masses] greater than or equal to  $D$  [ $M$ ]

$F_M(D)$  [ $F_M(M)$ ] is the mass fraction of fragments with diameters [masses] greater than or equal to  $D$  [ $M$ ].

In standard probability theory,  $F(x)$  is called a *complementary cumulative distribution function* (CCDF). Notice that  $F(x)$  is monotone decreasing such that  $F(0) = 1$  and  $F(\infty) = 0$ .

Alternatively, four common ways of expressing fragment size distributions are as follows

$f_M(D)$  [ $f_M(M)$ ] is the mass fraction of fragments with diameters [masses] in a range  $dD$  centered on  $D$  divided by  $dD$  [ $dM$  centered on  $M$  divided by  $dM$ ]

$f(D)$  [ $f(M)$ ] is the number fraction of fragments with diameters [masses] in a range  $dD$  centered on  $D$  divided by  $dD$  [ $dM$  centered on  $M$  divided by  $dM$ ]

In standard probability theory,  $f(x)$  is called a *probability density function* (PDF). The following eight equations may be used to transform between the above eight expressions:

$$M = c\rho D^m \quad (1)$$

$$F_M(M) = F_M(D) \quad (2)$$

$$F(M) = F(D) \quad (3)$$

$$f_M(D) = \text{const. } D^m f(D); f_M(M) = \text{const. } Mf(M) \quad (4)$$

$$F_M(D) = -\int_D^\infty f_M(x)dx; f_M(D) = -\frac{dF_M}{dD} \quad (5)$$

$$F_M(M) = -\int_M^\infty f_M(x)dx; f_M(M) = -\frac{dF_M}{dM} \quad (6)$$

$$F(D) = -\int_D^\infty f(x)dx; f(D) = -\frac{dF}{dD} \quad (7)$$

$$F(M) = -\int_M^\infty f(x)dx; f(M) = -\frac{dF}{dM} \quad (8)$$

where  $m$  is the fragment dimension,  $\rho$  is the fragment density, and  $c$  is a constant. Notice that liquids tend to produce spherical fragments with  $m = 3$  while solids may produce irregular fragments with any  $1 \leq m \leq 3$ .

Table 1 defines eight possible average fragment sizes in terms of  $f(x)$  and  $f_M(x)$ .

**Table 1. Eight possible average fragment sizes.** Asterisks (\*) indicate non-standard terminology.

Notation	Definition	Name	Notation	Definition	Name
$D_{avg}$	$\int_0^\infty Df(D)dD$	Count Mean Diameter (CMD)	$M_{avg}$	$\int_0^\infty Mf(M)dM$	Count Mean Mass (CMM) (*)
$D_{M avg}$	$\int_0^\infty Df_M(D)dD$	Mass Mean Diameter (MMD)	$M_{M avg}$	$\int_0^\infty Mf_M(M)dM$	Mass Mean Mass (MMM) (*)
$D'_{avg}$	$\frac{1}{\int_0^\infty \frac{f(D)}{D}dD}$	Sauter Count Mean Diameter (SCMD) (*)	$M'_{avg}$	$\frac{1}{\int_0^\infty \frac{f(M)}{M}dM}$	Sauter Count Mean Mass (SCMM) (*)
$D'_{M avg}$	$\frac{1}{\int_0^\infty \frac{f_M(D)}{D}dD}$	Sauter Mass Mean Diameter (SMMD)	$M'_{M avg}$	$\frac{1}{\int_0^\infty \frac{f_M(M)}{M}dM}$	Sauter Mass Mean Mass (SMMM) (*)

Consider the following ratio of averages:

$$R_M = \frac{D_{M \text{ avg}}}{D'_{M \text{ avg}}} \quad (10)$$

This is a measure of fragment size spread. While traditionally used for liquid fragmentation, it is equally valid for solid fragmentation. As an empirical observation, different fragment size distributions are often almost the same when  $R_M$  is almost the same.

Similarly, consider the following ratio of averages:

$$S = \frac{M_{\text{avg}}}{\rho c D_{\text{avg}}^m} \quad (11)$$

### 3. Fragment Size Distributions

This section summarizes some of the key results from Laney (2015a, b).

#### 3.1 Weibull Size Distributions

Table 2 shows eight different forms of Type I Weibull size distributions. These are also known as Rosin-Rammler-Sperling-Bennett (RRSB) size distributions; see Rosin et. al (1933) and Bennett (1936). Table 3 shows eight different forms for Type II Weibull size distributions; see Weibull (1939a, b). In either case, the two free parameters are  $n$  and an average fragment size. Table 4 gives expressions for the remaining parameters, which depend only on the free parameter  $n$  and the spatial dimension  $m$ , and not on the average fragment size. As described by Laney (2015b), Type I and II Weibull size distributions are subsets of Rosin-Rammler (1927) size distributions.

Laney (2015b) defines Type I, II, III, and IV size distributions as follows:

Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
$f_M(D)$	$f(D)$	$f_M(M)$	$f(M)$

where all four types have the same general form. Equivalently:

Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
$F_M(D)$	$F(D)$	$F_M(M)$	$F(M)$

where all four types have the same general form.

With simple parameter adjustments, Type III Weibull size distributions turn out to be essentially the same as Type I Weibull size distributions, and Type IV Weibull size distributions turn out to be essentially the same as Type II Weibull size distributions.

**Table 2a. Type I Weibull size distributions expressed in terms of  $F$  and  $f$ .**

$F(D) = \frac{\Gamma\left[1 - \frac{m}{n}, b\left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^n\right]}{\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)}$	$F(M) = \frac{\Gamma\left[1 - \frac{m}{n}, c\left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}}\right]}{\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)}$
$f(D) = \frac{1}{AD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^{n-m-1} \exp\left[-b\left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^n\right]$	$f(M) = \frac{S}{mAM_{avg}} \left(\frac{SM}{M_{avg}}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}-2} \exp\left[-c\left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}}\right]$

**Table 2b. Type I Weibull size distributions expressed in terms of  $F_M$  and  $f_M$ .**

$F_M(D) = \exp[-b(D/D_{avg})^n]$	$F_M(M) = \exp[-c(M/M_{avg})^{n/m}]$
$f_M(D) = \frac{1}{BD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^{n-1} \exp\left[-b\left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^n\right]$	$f_M(M) = \frac{S}{mBM_{avg}} \left(\frac{SM}{M_{avg}}\right)^{n/m-1} \exp\left[-c\left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{n/m}\right]$

**Table 3a. Type II Weibull size distributions expressed in terms of  $F$  and  $f$ .**

$F(D) = \exp[-b(D/D_{avg})^n]$	$F(M) = \exp[-c(M/M_{avg})^{n/m}]$
$f(D) = \frac{1}{AD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^{n-1} \exp\left[-b\left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^n\right]$	$f(M) = \frac{S}{mAM_{avg}} \left(\frac{SM}{M_{avg}}\right)^{n/m-1} \exp\left[-c\left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{n/m}\right]$

**Table 3b. Type II Weibull size distributions expressed in terms of  $F_M$  and  $f_M$ .**

$F_M(D) = \frac{\Gamma[1 + m/n, b(D/D_{avg})^n]}{\Gamma(1 + m/n)}$	$F_M(M) = \frac{\Gamma[1 + m/n, c(M/M_{avg})^{n/m}]}{\Gamma(1 + m/n)}$
$f_M(D) = \frac{1}{BD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^{n+m-1} \exp\left[-b\left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^n\right]$	$f_M(M) = \frac{S}{mBM_{avg}} \left(\frac{SM}{M_{avg}}\right)^{n/m} \exp\left[-c\left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{n/m}\right]$

**Table 4. Parameters for Type I and II Weibull size distributions which ensure the correct  $D_{avg}$  and  $M_{avg}$ .**

	I	II
$b$	$\frac{\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m-1}{n}\right)^n}{\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^n}$	$\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$
$c$	$\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)^{-\frac{n}{m}}$	$\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{m}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}}$
$S$	$\frac{b^{-\frac{m}{n}}}{\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)}$	$b^{-\frac{m}{n}} \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{m}{n}\right)$
$A$	$\frac{1}{ n } b^{-\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)} \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)$	$\frac{1}{ n b}$
$B$	$\frac{1}{ n b}$	$\frac{1}{ n } b^{-\left(1 + \frac{m}{n}\right)} \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{m}{n}\right)$

The research literature usually considers Weibull size distributions to be the same when  $n/m$  is the same. For example, by this convention,  $n = 1, m = 1$  and  $n = 2, m = 2$  and  $n = 3, m = 3$  are all the same while  $n = 1, m = 1$  and  $n = 1, m = 2$  and  $n = 1, m = 3$  are all different.

Figure 1 compares Type I and II Weibull size distributions to test data from Rosin & Rammler (1934). The smallest fragments appear to obey a power law or, equivalently, a negative Weibull size distribution while the largest fragments appear to obey a positive Weibull size distribution. Brown & Wohletz (1995) suggest that “the data consist of two populations: fines that experienced a single fragmentation event and remained unaffected in spaces among larger particles that were repeatedly fragmented during milling.” Notice that the Type II Weibull size distribution provides a somewhat better fit to the test data than the Type I Weibull size distribution. This tends to be true in general. Thus this treatment will rely predominantly on Type II Weibull size distributions.

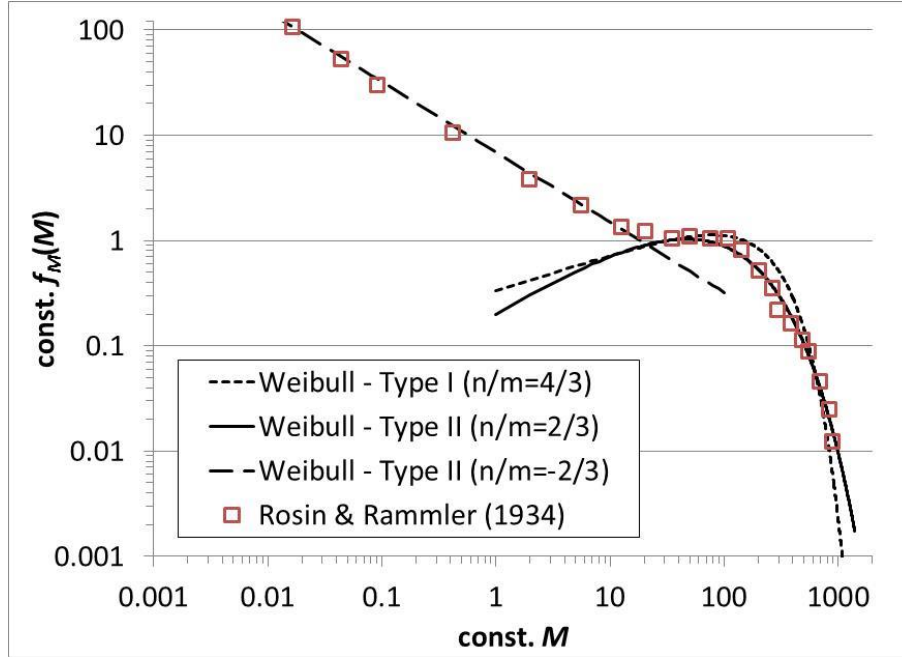


Figure 1. Type I and II Weibull size distributions vs. test data for ball-milling of iron from Rosin & Rammler (1934). A similar figure appeared earlier in Brown & Wohletz (1995).

### 3.2 Gamma Size Distributions

Table 5 shows eight different forms of Type IIB Gamma size distributions; see, e.g., Villermaux et. al. (2004). Table 6 shows eight different forms for Type IVB Gamma size distributions; see, e.g., Melzak (1953). In either case, the two free parameters are  $b$  and an average fragment size. Table 7 gives expressions for the remaining parameters, which depend only on the free parameter  $b$  and the spatial dimension  $m$ , and not on the average fragment size. As described by Laney (2015b), Type II and IV Weibull size distributions are subsets of Rosin-Rammler (1927) size distributions.

It is also possible to define Type I and III Gamma size distributions. Unlike Weibull size distributions, Type I, II, III and IV Gamma size distributions are all distinct.

For Type IA, IIA, IIIA, and IVA Gamma size distributions, the independent variable is normalized by the mass mean diameter or mass mean mass. Similarly, for Type IB, IIB, IIIB, and IVB Gamma size distributions, the independent variable is normalized by the count mean diameter or count mean mass. For Weibull size distributions, the parameters are the same regardless of normalization; therefore, there is no need to distinguish  $A$  from  $B$ . However, for Gamma size distribution, the parameters change along with the normalization; therefore, it is important to distinguish  $A$  from  $B$ .

**Table 5a. Type IIB Gamma distributions for expressed in terms of  $F$  and  $f$ .**

$F(D) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b, b \frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right]}{\Gamma(b)}$	$F(M) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b, c \left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{1/m}\right]}{\Gamma(b)}$
$f(D) = \frac{1}{AD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^{b-1} \exp\left[-b \frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right]$	$f(M) = \frac{S}{mAM_{avg}} \left(\frac{SM}{M_{avg}}\right)^{b/m-1} \exp\left[-c \left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{1/m}\right]$

**Table 5b. Type IIB Gamma distributions expressed in terms of  $F_M$  and  $f_M$ .**

$F_M(D) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b+m, \frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right]}{\Gamma(b+m)}$	$F_M(M) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b+m, c \left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{1/m}\right]}{\Gamma(b+m)}$
$f_M(D) = \frac{1}{BD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^{b+m-1} \exp\left[-b \frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right]$	$f_M(M) = \frac{S}{mBM_{avg}} \left(\frac{SM}{M_{avg}}\right)^{b/m} \exp\left[-c \left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{1/m}\right]$

**Table 6a. Type IVB Gamma distributions for expressed in terms of  $F$  and  $f$ .**

$F(D) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b, c \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^m\right]}{\Gamma(b)}$	$F(M) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b, b \frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right]}{\Gamma(b)}$
$f(D) = \frac{m}{ASD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{SD_{avg}}\right)^{mb-1} \exp\left[-c \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^m\right]$	$f(M) = \frac{1}{AM_{avg}} \left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^{b-1} \exp\left[-b \frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right]$

**Table 6b. Type IVB Gamma distributions expressed in terms of  $F_M$  and  $f_M$ .**

$F_M(D) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b+1, c \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^m\right]}{\Gamma(b+1)}$	$F_M(M) = \frac{\Gamma\left[b+1, b \frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right]}{\Gamma(b+1)}$
$f_M(D) = \frac{m}{BSD_{avg}} \left(\frac{D}{SD_{avg}}\right)^{m(b+1)-1} \exp\left[-c \left(\frac{D}{D_{avg}}\right)^m\right]$	$f_M(M) = \frac{1}{BM_{avg}} \left(\frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right)^b \exp\left[-b \frac{M}{M_{avg}}\right]$

**Table 7. Parameters for Type IIB and IVB Gamma size distributions which ensure the correct  $D_{avg}$  and  $M_{avg}$ .**

	<b>IIB</b>	<b>IVB</b>
$c$	$\frac{\Gamma(b+m)^{1/m}}{\Gamma(b)^{1/m}}$	$\frac{\Gamma(b+1/m)^m}{\Gamma(b)^m}$
$S$	$\frac{1}{b^m} \frac{\Gamma(b+m)}{\Gamma(b)}$	$\frac{b^{1/m} \Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(b+1/m)}$
$A$	$\frac{\Gamma(b)}{b^b}$	$\frac{\Gamma(b)}{b^b}$
$B$	$\frac{\Gamma(b+m)}{b^{b+m}}$	$\frac{\Gamma(b+1)}{b^{b+1}}$

### 3.3 Root Normal Size Distributions

Table 8 shows eight different forms of Type IA root normal size distributions; see Tate & Marshall (1953). Table 10 shows eight different forms of Type IIB root normal size distributions; see Laney (2015a). In either case, the two free parameters are  $\sigma$  and an average fragment size. Tables 9 and 11 give expressions for the remaining parameters, which depend only on the free parameter  $\sigma$  and the spatial dimension  $m$ , and not on any average fragment size. Most previous treatments let  $a = 1$  and did not attempt to solve the implicit equation for  $a$  given in Tables 8 and 10. This means that most previous treatments have errors in the average size.

**Table 8a. Type IA root normal distributions expressed in terms of  $F$  and  $f$ .**

$F(D) = -\int_D^\infty f(x)dx$	$F(M) = -\int_M^\infty f(x)dx$
$f(D) = \frac{1}{BD_{M\text{ avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \times \left(\frac{D}{D_{M\text{ avg}}}\right)^{-m-1/2} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\sqrt{D/D_{M\text{ avg}}} - a)^2\right]$	$f(M) = \frac{S_M}{BmM_{M\text{ avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \times \left(\frac{S_M M}{M_{M\text{ avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}-2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\left[\left(\frac{S_M M}{M_{M\text{ avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}} - a\right]^2\right\}$

**Table 8b. Type IA root normal distributions expressed in terms of  $F_M$  and  $f_M$**

$F_M(D) = \frac{1}{A} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{\sqrt{D/D_{M\text{ avg}}} - a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$	$F_M(M) = \frac{1}{A} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{(S_M M / M_{M\text{ avg}})^{1/2m} - a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$
$f_M(D) = \frac{1}{AD_{M\text{ avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{D/D_{M\text{ avg}}}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\sqrt{D/D_{M\text{ avg}}} - a)^2\right]$	$f_M(M) = \frac{S_M}{AmM_{M\text{ avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \times \left(\frac{S_M M}{M_{M\text{ avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}-1} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\left[\left(\frac{S_M M}{M_{M\text{ avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}} - a\right]^2\right\}$



**Table 9. Parameters for Type IA root normal size distributions which ensure the correct  $D_{M\text{ avg}}$  and  $M_{M\text{ avg}}$ .**

$A$	$\sigma^2 + a^2 + \frac{2\sigma a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{\exp(-a^2/2\sigma^2)}{\text{erfc}(-a/\sqrt{2}\sigma)} = 1$ (implicit equation)
$A$	$\text{erfc}\left(-\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$
$B$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} \int_{\delta}^{\infty} x^{-m-1/2} \exp\left[-\frac{(\sqrt{x}-a)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] dx$
$S_M$	$\frac{a^6 + 15a^4\sigma^2 + 45a^2\sigma^4 + 15\sigma^6}{(a^4 + 14a^2\sigma^2 + 33\sigma^4) \frac{2\sigma a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) / \text{erfc}\left(-\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)}$

**Table 10a. Root normal distributions of Type IIB expressed in terms of  $F$  and  $f$ .**

$F(D) = \frac{1}{A} \text{erfc}\left(\frac{\sqrt{D/D_{\text{avg}}} - a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$	$F(M) = \frac{1}{A} \text{erfc}\left(\frac{(SM/M_{\text{avg}})^{1/2m} - a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$
$f(D) = \frac{1}{AD_{\text{avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{D/D_{\text{avg}}}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\sqrt{D/D_{\text{avg}}} - a)^2\right]$	$f(M) = \frac{S}{AmM_{\text{avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} \times \left(\frac{SM}{M_{\text{avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}-1} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[\left(\frac{SM}{M_{\text{avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}} - a\right]^2\right\}$

**Table 10b. Root normal distributions of Type IIB expressed in terms of  $F_M$  and  $f_M$ .**

$F_M(D) = -\int_D^{\infty} f_M(x) dx$	$F_M(M) = -\int_M^{\infty} f_M(x) dx$
$f_M(D) = \frac{1}{BD_{\text{avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} \times \left(\frac{D}{D_{\text{avg}}}\right)^{m-1/2} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\sqrt{D/D_{\text{avg}}} - a)^2\right]$	$f_M(M) = \frac{S}{BmM_{\text{avg}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} \times \left(\frac{SM}{M_{\text{avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[\left(\frac{SM}{M_{\text{avg}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2m}} - a\right]^2\right\}$

**Table 11. Parameters for Type IIB root normal size distributions which ensure the correct  $D_{avg}$  and  $M_{avg}$ .**

$a$	$\sigma^2 + a^2 + \frac{2\sigma a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{\exp(-a^2/2\sigma^2)}{\operatorname{erfc}(-a/\sqrt{2}\sigma)} = 1$ (implicit equation)
$A$	$\operatorname{erfc}\left(-\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$
$B$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^\infty x^{m-1/2} \exp\left[-\frac{(\sqrt{x}-a)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] dx$
$S$	$\frac{a^6 + 15a^4\sigma^2 + 45a^2\sigma^4 + 15\sigma^6}{(a^4 + 14a^2\sigma^2 + 33\sigma^4) \frac{2\sigma a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) / \operatorname{erfc}\left(-\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)}$

For Type I root normal size distributions,  $f$  and  $F$  suffer from a severe (non-integrable) singularity at the origin. Thus most prior treatments work exclusively with  $f_M$  and  $F_M$ , which have only a mild (integrable) singularity at the origin. However, a better approach is to substitute closely-matched Type II for Type I root normal size distributions, as described by Laney (2015a).

For Type IIB root normal size distributions, there are useful analytical expressions for integer  $m$ . For example, if  $m = 3$  then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_M(M) = & \frac{1}{B} (a^6 + 15a^4\sigma^2 + 45a^2\sigma^4 + 15\sigma^6) \operatorname{erfc}\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \left[ \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{1/6} - a \right] \right\} \\
 & + \frac{2\sigma}{\sqrt{2\pi}B} \left[ \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{5}{6}} + a \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} + (a^2 + 5\sigma^2) \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right. \\
 & + (a^3 + 9a\sigma^2) \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} + (a^4 + 12a^2\sigma^2 + 15\sigma^4) \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}} \\
 & \left. + a^5 + 14a^3\sigma^2 + 33a\sigma^4 \right] \exp\left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[ \left( \frac{SM}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}} - a \right]^2 \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$B = (a^6 + 15a^4\sigma^2 + 45a^2\sigma^4 + 15\sigma^6) \operatorname{erfc}\left(-\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right) \\ + (a^4 + 14a^2\sigma^2 + 33\sigma^4) \frac{2\sigma a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

and:

$$S = a^4 + 14a^2\sigma^2 + 33\sigma^4 - 2a^2\sigma^4 - 18\sigma^6$$

#### 4. Solid vs. Liquid: Fragment Size Distributions

Table 12 shows proposed correspondences between various solid and liquid fragment size distributions. Appendix A provides additional details for selected cases. While the type varies in the original sources, the distributions were converted to Type II or IV in all cases, with the original distributions noted in parentheses. While the fragmentation dimension  $m$  varies in the original sources, the distributions were converted to  $m = 3$  in all cases. After making these two conversions, the proposed correspondences were chosen based solely on  $R_M$ .

Based on Table 12, the same size distribution, or nearly so, may occur for a wide range of different fragmentation events. Table 12 is not intended to be a complete listing of all possible size distributions. For example, for fragmentation of undulating liquid sheets, Bremond et. al. (2007) found a Type II Gamma size distribution with  $b = 70$ . Judging by  $R_M$ , this corresponds to a Type II Weibull size distribution with  $n/m = 3$ . For another example, for fragmentation of metal rings, Moxnes & Børve (2015) found a Type II Weibull size distribution with  $n/m \approx 4$ .

In Table 12, the fragment size distributions given in the white cells are approximations based on test or computational data, while those given in the grey cells are exact values derived from theory. As seen in Appendix A, the three main types of theories used are as follows:

- *Geometry, a.k.a., perfect (void free) packing theory.* If adjacent fragments meet at single point, the result has an inherently fractal character, e.g., Apollonian sphere packing. If adjacent fragments meet along extended lines or surfaces – so that the parts to fit together to form the whole like jigsaw puzzle pieces as in Lesh et. al. (2004) – the result is known as *tessellation* or *subdivision*.
- *Maximum entropy theory.* According to Engelman (1996), this approach “predicts that the ‘best’ probability  $p(s)$  for the occurrence of the value  $s$  for a variable is obtained by maximizing the information entropy subject to constraints.”
- *Governing equations* including the Population Balance Equation (PBE) and the Discrete Element Method (DEM). Both the PBE and DEM concern collections of pre-existing particles. The PBE assumes that particle properties change due to discrete events, e.g., random collisions. The DEM assumes that particle properties change due to discrete events and/or hypothetical interparticle forces. The PBE is simple enough to allow for a number of exact analytical solutions.

**Table 12. Proposed correspondences between solid and liquid fragment size distributions. The white cells are approximate values based on test or computation. The grey cells are exact values based on theory.**

Solids		Liquids		
Weibull	Gamma	Weibull	Gamma	Root Normal
Zhou et al. (2006) Type II $n/m = 2$ $R_M = 1.026$	Ferenc & Néda (2007) Type IVB $b = 5$ $R_M = 1.025$			Chou & Faeth (1998) Type IIB (IA) $\sigma = 0.086$ (0.081) $R_M = 1.027$ (1.02)
Cheong et al. (2003, 2004) Type II (I) $n/m = 1.5$ (2.38) $R_M = 1.049$ (1.033)			Villermoux (2007) Type IIB $b = 17$ $R_M = 1.053$	Sallam et.al. (2006) Type IIB (IA) $\sigma = 0.125$ (0.11) $R_M = 1.052$ (1.04)
Grady & Kipp (1985) Type II $n/m = 1$ $R_M = 1.075$		Li & Tankin (1987) Type II $n/m = 1$ $R_M = 1.075$	Bremont & Villermoux (2006) Type IIB $b = 10$ $R_M = 1.083$	
Grady et.al. (2001) Type II $n/m = 0.85$ $R_M = 1.094$			Marmottant & Villermoux (2004a) Type IIB $b = 8.1$ $R_M = 1.125$	
Grady et.al. (2001) Type II $n/m = 0.67$ $R_M = 1.132$			Marmottant & Villermoux (2004a) Type IIB $b = 6$ $R_M = 1.125$	Wu et. al. (1991) Type IIB (IA) $\sigma = 0.24$ (0.17) $R_M = 1.135$ (1.1)
Grady et.al. (2001) Type II $n/m = 0.55$ $R_M = 1.171$			Marmottant & Villermoux (2004b) Type IIB $b = 3.8$ $R_M = 1.172$	
Mott & Linfoot (1943) Type II $n/m = 1/2$ $R_M = 1.194$			Marmottant & Villermoux (2004b) Type IIB $b = 2.81$ $R_M = 1.208$	Empie et.al. (1995, 1997) Type IIB (IA) $\sigma = 0.34$ (0.20) $R_M = 1.195$ (1.15)
Cohen (1981) Type II $n/m = 0.433$ $R_M = 1.238$			Mulmule et.al. (2010) Type IIB $b = 2.2$ $R_M = 1.238$	Simmons (1977) Type IIB (IA) $\sigma = 0.47$ (0.238) $R_M = 1.253$ (1.2)

**Table 12 (continued)**

<b>Solids</b>		<b>Liquids</b>		
<b>Weibull</b>	<b>Gamma</b>	<b>Weibull</b>	<b>Gamma</b>	<b>Root Normal</b>
Mott & Linfoot (1943) Type II $n/m = 1/3$ $R_M = 1.333$		Marshall & Palmer (1948) Type II (*) $n/m = 1/3$ $R_M = 1.333$		Spielbauer et. al. (1989) Type IIB (IA) $\sigma = 0.72$ (0.286) $R_M = 1.333$ (~1.5)

(\*) Maximum entropy proof given by Cousin et. al. (1996).

In most cases, the PBE and especially DEM must be solved computationally. For example, Wittell et. al. (2004, 2005, 2006) describe a DEM approach for solid shell fragmentation based on “pointlike material elements [with] ...bonds between nodes ... assumed to be springs having linear elastic behavior up to failure.” For another example, Carmona et. al. (2008) and Wittell et. al. (2008) describe a DEM approach for solid volumetric fragmentation based on “an agglomeration of spheres of two different sizes ...connected by beam-truss elements that can elongate, shear, bend and torque,” including beam breakage due to bending and stretching, and “contact forces from sphere-sphere contacts.” Using this approach, Carmona et. al. (2008) and Wittell et. al. (2008) found a Weibull size distribution with  $n/m \approx 2$ .

In the third row of Table 12, notice that Grady & Kipp (1985) and Li & Tankin (1987) used the same approach – maximum entropy theory – to derive the same fragment size distribution within two years of each other. Grady & Kipp (1985) is well-known in the solid fragmentation community but essentially unknown in the liquid fragmentation community. Similarly, Li & Tankin (1987) is well-known in the liquid fragmentation community but essentially unknown in the solid fragmentation community.

In the last row of Table 12, notice that Mott & Linfoot (1943) and Marshall & Palmer (1948) used the same approach – curve fits to experimental data – to derive the same fragment size distribution within five years of each other. Mott & Linfoot (1943) is considered a classic in the weapons effects community; see also Grady (2006). While it is widely used to predict fragments sizes for metal-cased high-explosives, it is rarely used for other applications. Similarly, Marshall & Palmer (1948) is considered a classic in the meteorological community. While it is widely used to predict raindrop sizes, it is rarely used other applications.

Because they are based on curve fits to experiments with finite sample sizes, Weibull exponents such as  $n/m = 1/2$  arguably reflect a bias toward simple rational numbers. The actual values could be slightly different. This observation is counterbalanced by the fact that at least two such rational numbers,  $n/m = 1$  and  $n/m = 1/3$ , have been proven to be exactly correct; see Appendix A.3 and A.7. In addition, it is remarkable that different researchers working with different families of size distributions have independently arrived at such similar results. This includes Gamma and root normal size distributions whose parameters tend not to be simple rational numbers.

## 5. Solid vs. Liquid: Average Fragment Sizes

The size distributions seen in Sections 4 and 5 have two free parameters. This section describes a method for predicting one of those two free parameters, namely, the average fragment size. For an expanding cylindrical solid, Mott & Linfoot (1943) derived the following expression for an (unspecified) average fragment size:

$$\left( \frac{24R^2\Gamma}{\rho U^2} \right)^{1/3} \quad (12)$$

where  $R$  is the initial outer radius measured in units such as cm,  $\Gamma$  is the surface energy per unit area of new fragment surfaces measured in units such as dyne/cm,  $\rho$  is the density measured in units such as g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and  $U$  is the radial expansion speed measured in units such as cm/s.

Building on Mott & Linfoot (1943), Grady (1982) suggested the following:

$$\Gamma = \sigma \quad (13)$$

for inviscid liquids where  $\sigma$  is the surface tension measured in units such as g/s<sup>2</sup> and:

$$\Gamma = \frac{K_c^2}{2\rho c_s^2} \quad (14)$$

for brittle solids where  $K_c$  is the fracture toughness measured in units such as g/(cm<sup>1/2</sup>s<sup>2</sup>) and  $c_s$  is the elastic wave velocity measured in units such as cm/s.

Equation (12) is derived by assuming that kinetic energy is converted to surface energy and, optionally, elastic potential energy. The derivation assumes the rate-of-strain is steady, uniform, and large. Zhou et. al. (2006) compares results from several competing theories, which gives a sense for how large the rate-of-strain needs to be; see also Grady (1988), Grady & Kipp (1993), Grady & Olsen (2003), Grady (2006), and Grady (2015).

For primary breakup of an expanding cylindrical liquid jet, Wu et. al. (1992) and Wu & Faeth (1993) found the following expression:

$$\frac{D'_{M\,avg}}{\Lambda} = \text{const.} \left( \frac{x}{\Lambda We^{1/2}} \right)^{2/3} \quad (15)$$

where:

$$We = \frac{\rho V^2 \Lambda}{\sigma}$$

is a unitless Weber number,  $\Lambda$  is a “radial integral length scale” comparable to the largest turbulent eddies,  $x$  is the streamwise distance along the jet, and  $V$  is the average streamwise velocity of the jet. Equation (15) can be simplified as follows:

$$D'_{M \text{ avg}} = \text{const.} \left( \frac{\sigma x^2}{\rho V^2} \right)^{1/3} \quad (16)$$

Notice that Equations (12) and (16) are the same provided that  $\Gamma = \sigma$ , the unspecified average in Equation (12) is equal to the Sauter mass mean diameter, and:

$$R = \text{const.} x$$

$$U = \text{const.} V$$

Both of these are true for linearly-expanding cylindrical jets.

While Mott & Linfoot (1943) and Grady (1982) are considered to be classics in weapons effects community, they are essentially unknown in the liquid fragmentation community. Similarly, while Wu et. al. (1992) and Wu & Faeth (1993) are well-known in the atomization and sprays community, they are essentially unknown in the solid fragmentation community.

## 6. Solid vs. Liquid: Most Common Fragment Size Distributions

While Grady’s law can be used to predict one of the free parameters in Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions, there is no known method for predicting the other free parameter. As a result, fragmentation is a long-term unsolved problem.

The simplest and best-known technique relies on empirical observations. For example, for expanding solid cylinders, Mott & Linfoot (1943) suggested that the two most common fragment size distributions are Type II Weibull size distributions with:

$$n/m = 1/2$$

and

$$n/m = 1/3.$$

As another example, for expanding cylindrical liquid jets, Simmons (1977) suggested that the most common fragment size distribution is a Type IA root normal size distribution with:

$$\sigma = 0.238$$

As seen in Table 12, this corresponds to a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m \approx \frac{1/2 + 1/3}{2} = 0.41667$$

In other words, the Simmons size distribution for liquid fragmentation is essentially an arithmetic average of the two Mott-Linfoot size distributions for solid fragmentation.

The Mott-Linfoot and Simmons size distributions represent large to very large fragment size spreads. However, modern designs tend to favor smaller fragment size spreads. For example, for explosively-driven metal cylinders, Grady et. al. (2001) obtained four Type II Weibull size distributions with  $n/m$  equal to 0.55, 0.67, 0.67, and 0.85. Only the first of these is anything like a Mott-Linfoot or Simmons size distribution. For another example, in a literature survey by Pimentel et. al. (2010), all of the spray systems tested prior to Simmons (1977) approximately obtained the Simmons or Mott-Linfoot size distributions; however, none of the spray systems tested afterwards did. In fact, as in seen in Table 13, the more recent the spray system, the smaller the size spread tends to be. (Remember that the size spread increases as  $\sigma$  increases and decreases as  $n/m$  increases.) The modern trend toward small size spreads has reduced the practical value of the Mott-Linfoot and Simmons size distributions.

**Table 13a. Parameters  $n/m$  in a Type II Weibull and  $\sigma$  in Type IA root normal size distributions for spray systems measured before Simmons (1977). Based on a literature survey done by Pimentel et. al. (2010); see Laney (2015a).**

$n/m$	$\sigma$	Reference(s)	Liquid	Spray System	No.	%
1/2	0.20	Turner & Moulton (1953)	$\beta$ -naphthol	Swirl Jet	4	50%
0.417	0.238	Tate & Olson (1962) Houghton (1941)	Water (unknown)	Solid, Hollow Cone (unknown)	3 1	50%

**Table 13b. Parameters  $n/m$  in a Type II Weibull and  $\sigma$  in Type IA root normal size distributions for sprays systems measured after Simmons (1977). Based on a literature survey done by Pimentel et. al. (2010); see Laney (2015a).**

$n/m$	$\sigma$	Reference(s)	Liquid	Spray System	No.	%
2	0.081	Pimentel et. al. (2010)	Jet Fuel	'Delavan'	3	10%
3/2	0.11	Pimentel et. al. (2010)	Jet Fuel	'Bosch'	4	45%
		"	"	'BETE'	9	
		"	"	'Delavan'	1	
2/3	0.17	Pimentel et. al. (2010)	(unknown)	'LaVision'	3	45%
		Paloposki & Fagerholm (1986)	Fuel Oil	Hollow Cone	5	
		Li & Tankin (1987)	Water	Solid Cone	4	
		Tishkoff (1979)	Water	Hollow Cone	2	

The Kuz-Ram method provides an empirical expression for  $n$  in a Type I Weibull size distribution, e.g., Cunningham (2005), Gheibie et. al. (2009). Unfortunately, this empirical expression depends on parameters specific to explosive rock mining such as borehole diameters, lengths, and spacings. There is no readily apparent extension to other applications.



## 7. Conclusions

In most cases, the vast majority of evidence for any given fragment size distribution is experimental. Given factors such as limited sample sizes, measurement errors, and artificial minimum fragment sizes, this leads to questions about the accuracy of any proposed fit, e.g., Clauset et. al. (2009). However, within these limitations, solid and liquid fragment size distributions often appear to be similar or identical, except possibly for extremely large or small fragments. Theories and models provide additional confirmatory evidence in selected cases.

Previous treatments of fragment size distributions often vary two or even three free parameters. However, this treatment varies only a single free parameter. Obviously, varying two or three parameters leads to significantly better agreement – with test data or with other size distributions – than varying only one parameter. However, this agreement comes at a cost, namely, such distributions may lack critical transformation and self-similarity properties, as described in Laney (2015a,b). It is unfair to compare a fit constrained by transformation and/or self-similarity properties against an unconstrained fit. The latter will inevitably appear to perform better, as judged by the usual error metrics, than the former.

Solids and liquids tend to fragment in entirely different ways. In particular, solids typically fragment via crack propagation while liquids typically fragment via hydrodynamic instability, followed by secondary breakup and coagulation. However, this work has shown that the final results are often strikingly similar. This implies that it may be unnecessary or even counterproductive to use first-principles fragmentation models, i.e., methods that accurately track the time-evolution of crack propagation or hydrodynamic instability. Indeed, such approaches still have limited predictive capability despite decades of effort. This also implies that increased interactions between the solid and liquid fragmentation communities would be mutually beneficial, e.g., it might avoid the duplication of effort seen repeatedly in the historical record.

This paper has been mainly observational. Future work will explain why manifestly different fragmentation events may produce such similar results.

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## Appendix A: Specific Examples of Solid vs. Liquid Fragment Size Distributions

### A.1. Example 1

This example concerns three fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.026 \pm 0.001$ . These distributions are considered to have a very narrow size spread.

1.) Based on a literature survey of experimental results for expanding solid rings with  $m = 1$ , Zhou et. al. (2006) suggested the following fragment size distribution:

$$F(M) = \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{M - M_{\min}}{M_{ref}} \right)^2 \right] \quad (A1a)$$

$$f(M) = \frac{2}{M_{ref}^2} (M - M_{\min}) \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{M - M_{\min}}{M_{ref}} \right)^2 \right] \quad (A1b)$$

where  $M_{\min}$  is a minimum fragment size and  $M_{ref}$  is a reference fragment size. If  $M_{\min} = 0$ , then by Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 2 \quad (A1c)$$

This particular Weibull size distribution is also known as a Rayleigh distribution. As shown by Laney (2015b), Weibull distributions are the same regardless of normalization. In other words,  $n/m = 2$  regardless of whether  $M_{ref}$  is chosen to be  $M_{avg}$ ,  $M_{M avg}$ , or some other average.

Zhou et. al. (2006) drew on four experimental studies. Unfortunately, all four suffered from low sample sizes, with the number of fragments varying between 18 and 125, the latter obtained only by repeating the same test 11 times. Grady and Olsen (2003) and Grady (2006) provide alternative fits, including rare applications of Mott (1947), that may better account for the effects of such small sample sizes.

2.) Based on computational results for Voronoi tessellation of unitary solid bodies with  $m = 1, 2$ , or 3, Ferenc & Néda (2007) suggested the following fragment size distribution:

$$f(M) = \frac{\left( \frac{3m+1}{2} \right)^{\frac{3m+1}{2}}}{M_{avg} \Gamma \left( \frac{3m+1}{2} \right)} \left( \frac{M}{M_{avg}} \right)^{\frac{3m+1}{2}-1} \exp \left[ - \frac{3m+1}{2} \frac{M}{M_{avg}} \right] \quad (A2a)$$

By Table 6, this is a Type IV Gamma size distribution with:

$$b = \frac{3m+1}{2} \quad (\text{A2b})$$

For comparison, based on earlier computational results for Voronoi tessellation for unitary solid bodies such as asteroids, Kiang (1966) suggested a Type IV Gamma size distribution with:

$$b = 2m \quad (\text{A3})$$

Equation (A3) predicts somewhat larger values for  $b$  than Equation (A2) when  $m > 1$ .

3.) Based on experimental results for bag-type aerodynamic breakup of water droplets, Chou & Faeth (1998) suggested a Type IA root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.02$  or equivalently:

$$\sigma \approx 0.081, \quad a = 1 \quad (\text{A4})$$

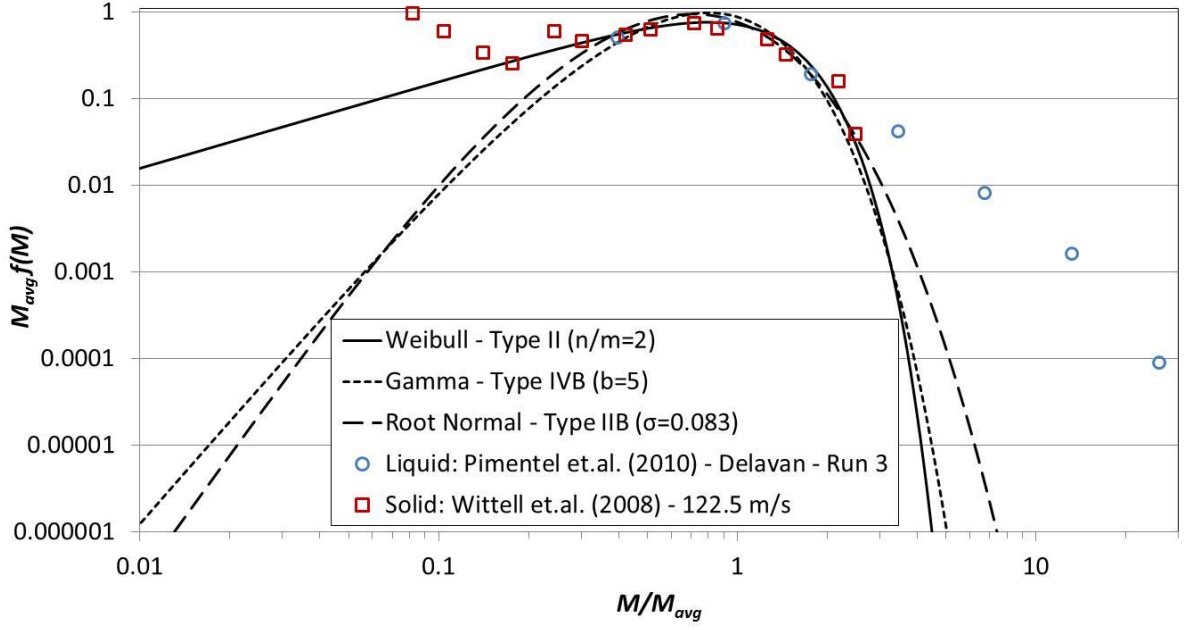
Laney (2015a) showed that this is nearly identical to a Type IIB root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.027$  or equivalently:

$$\sigma = 0.086, \quad a = 0.9963 \quad (\text{A5})$$

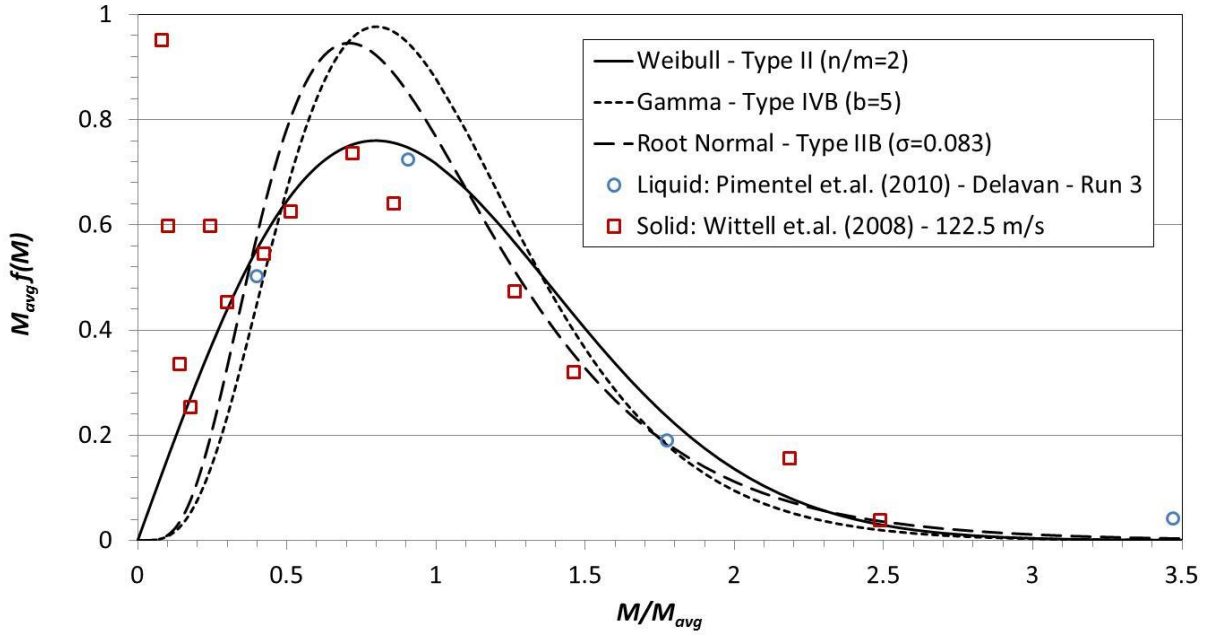
Notice that most liquid atomization events produce nearly-spherical droplets with  $m = 3$ . This is true even when the atomizing body is one-dimensional such a ring, ligament, or filament or two-dimensional such as a bag or sheet.

Figure A.1 shows four different views of the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equation (A1), the Type IIB Gamma size distribution given by Equation (A2), and the Type IIB root normal size distribution given by Equation (A5). These three size distributions are compared to each other and to experimental data for liquid atomization due to Pimentel et. al. (2010) and computational data for solid fragmentation due to Wittell et. al. (2008). In the latter case, Wittell et. al. (2008) used a Discrete Element Model (DEM) to simulate 16mm-diameter polymer spheres impacting hard frictionless plates; see also Carmona et. al. (2008). The smallest fragments in Wittell et. al. (2008) appear to obey a power law. In addition, the largest liquid fragments in Pimentel et. al. (2010) appear to obey a power law. In this case, the Weibull size distribution appears to obtain somewhat better agreement with the experimental data than the Gamma and root normal distribution, which are nearly the same.



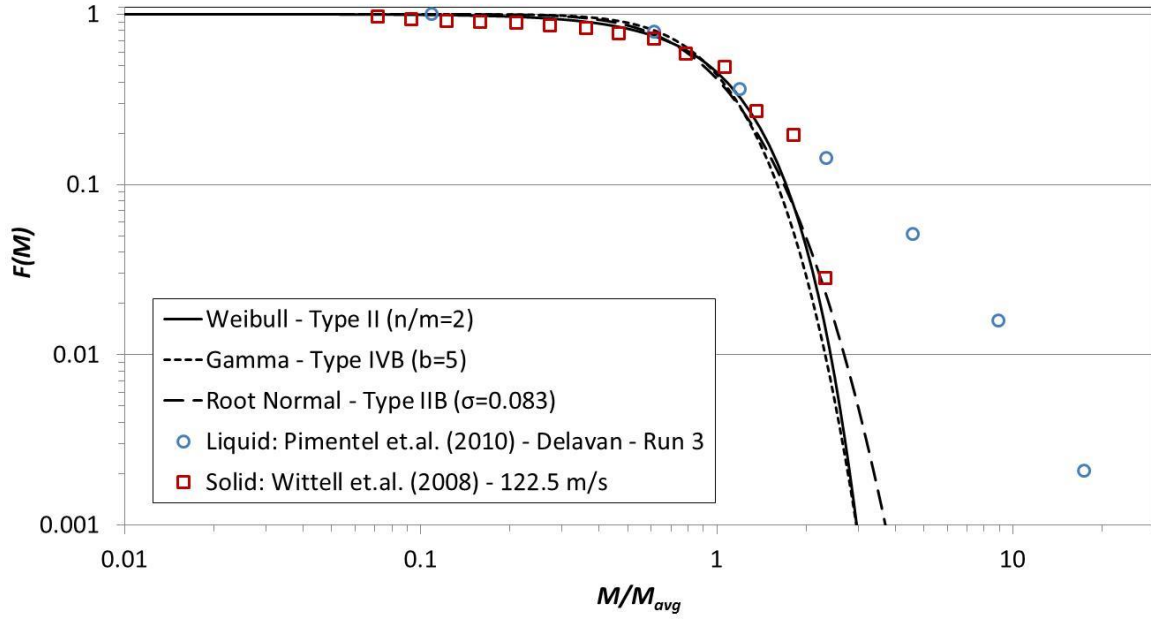


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

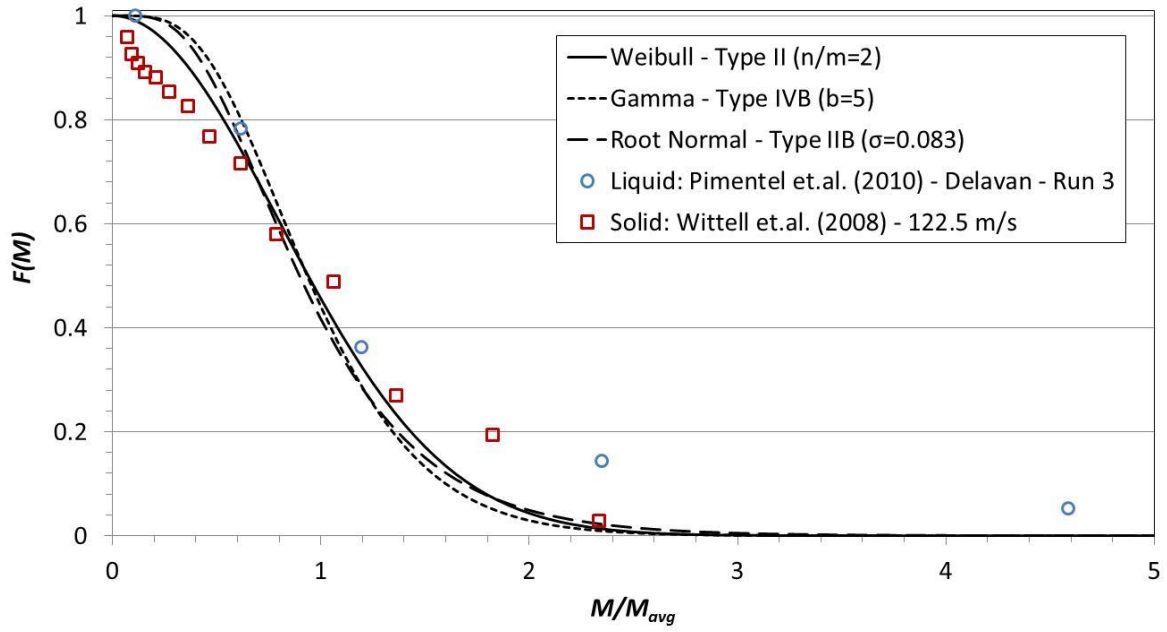


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

**Figure A.1. Type II Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions vs. experimental data for liquid atomization due to Pimentel et. al. (2010) and computational data for solid fragmentation due to Wittell et. al. (2008). The Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions all have  $R_M = 1.026 \pm 0.001$ .**



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



(d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.1. (continued)

## A.2. Example 2

This example concerns three fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.051 \pm 0.002$ . These distributions are considered to have a narrow fragment size spread.

1.) Cheong et. al. (2003, 2004) studied gun-launched soda-lime glass spheres impacting thick aluminum oxide blocks. In these tests, fragments originated entirely from the surfaces of the spheres, leaving the interiors intact, which implies  $m = 2$ . For an impact angle of  $60^\circ$ , they obtained the following fragment size distributions:

$$F_M(D) = \exp[-(D/D_{ref})^n] \quad (A6a)$$

where  $D$  is “an equivalent diameter of a circle having the same area as the projected area of the corresponding fragment,”  $D_{ref}$  is a reference diameter, and:

$$n = 4.76 \pm 33\% \quad (A6b)$$

is an average over four measurements. According to Table 2, this is a Type I Weibull size distribution with  $n/m = 2.38$ . As shown by Laney (2015b), this is approximately the same as a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 1.5 \quad (A7)$$

As noted earlier, Weibull distributions are the same regardless of normalization. In other words,  $n/m = 1.5$  regardless of whether  $D_{ref}$  is chosen to be  $D_{avg}$ ,  $D_{M avg}$ , or some other average.

2.) Based on experimental results for fragmentation of liquid sheets, Villermaux (2007) suggested a Type IIB Gamma size distribution with:

$$b = 17 \quad (A8)$$

3.) Based on experimental results for round aerated liquid jets, Sallam et. al. (2006) suggested a Type IA root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.04$  or equivalently:

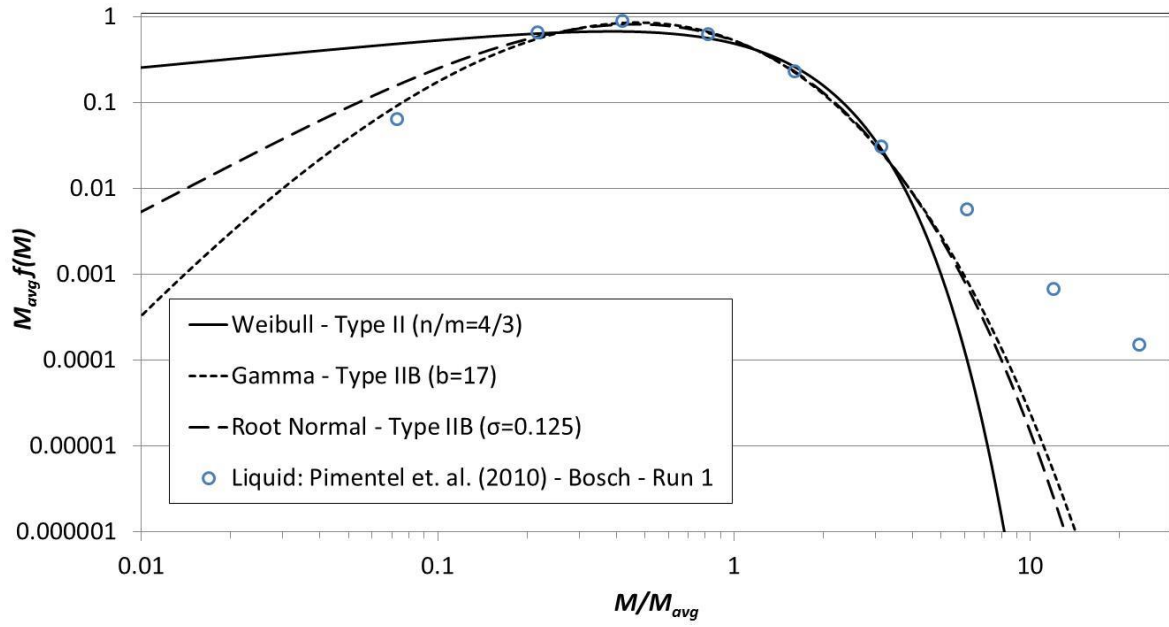
$$\sigma \approx 0.11, \quad a = 1 \quad (A9)$$

Laney (2015a) showed that this is nearly identical to a Type IIB root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.049$  or equivalently:

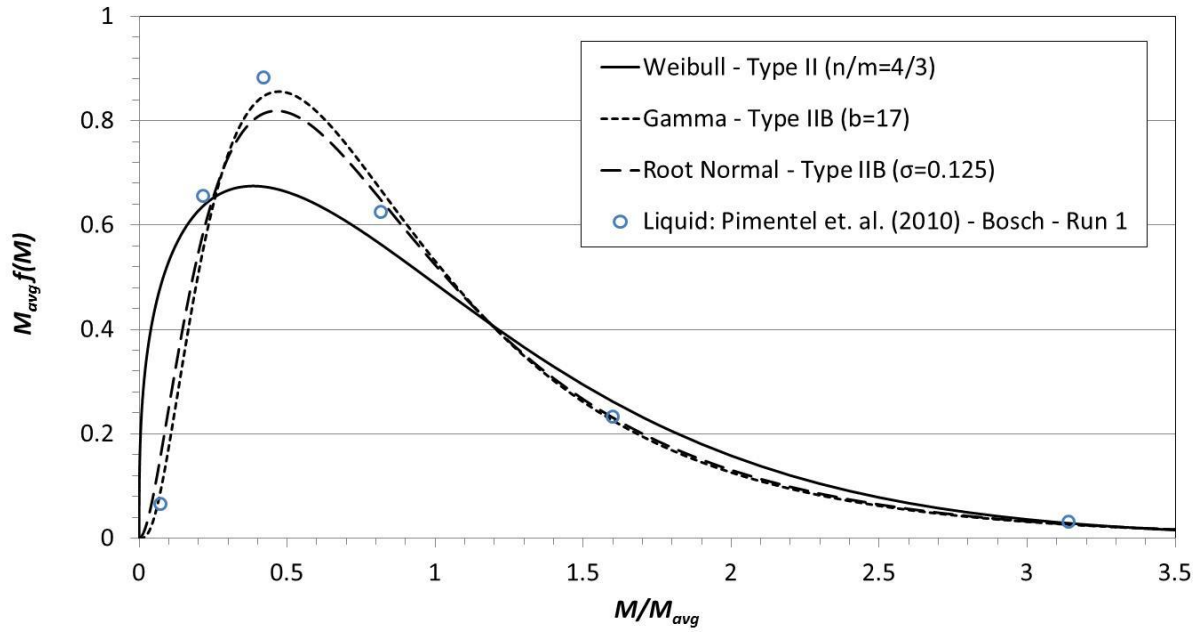
$$\sigma = 0.125, \quad a = 0.9922 \quad (A10)$$

Figure A.2 shows four views of the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equation (A7), the Type IIB Gamma size distribution given by Equation (A8), and the Type IIB root normal size distribution given by Equation (A10). These three size distributions are compared to each other

and to experimental data for liquid atomization due to Pimentel et. al. (2010). The largest liquid fragments in Pimentel et. al. (2010) appear to obey a power law. In this case, the Gamma and root normal size distributions, which are nearly the same, appear to obtain somewhat better agreement with the experimental data than the Weibull size distribution.

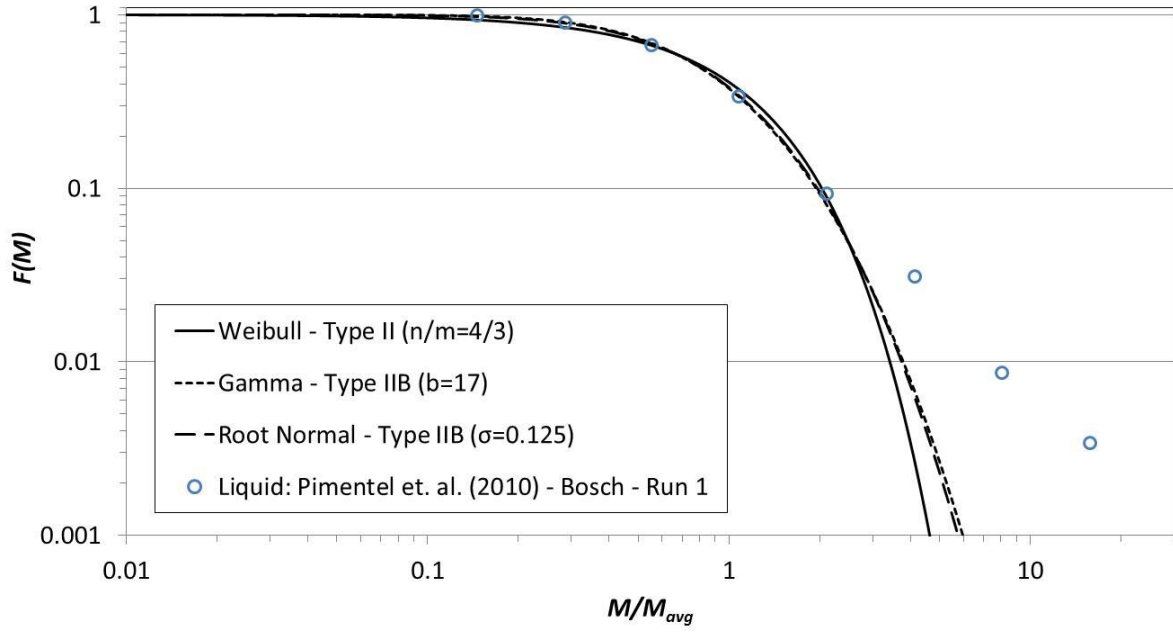


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

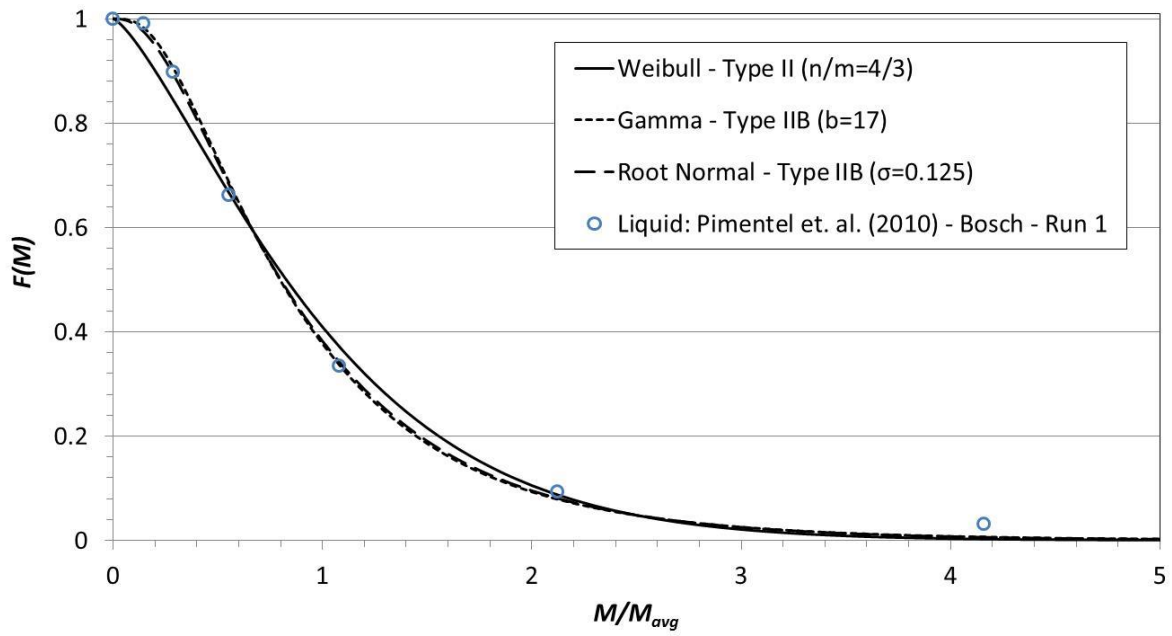


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

**Figure A.2. Type II Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions vs. experimental data for liquid atomization due to Pimentel et. al. (2010). The Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions all have  $R_M = 1.051 \pm 0.002$ .**



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



(d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.2 (continued)

### A.3. Example 3

This example concerns fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.080 \pm 0.005$ . These distributions are considered to have a medium-to-narrow size spread

1.) For fragmenting bodies with  $m = 1$ , Lineau (1936) derived the following size distribution:

$$F(M) = \exp(-\text{const. } M) \quad (\text{A11a})$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 1 \quad (\text{A11b})$$

As noted earlier, Weibull size distributions are the same regardless of normalization. In other words, it makes no difference that Table 3 includes  $M_{avg}$  while Equation (A11) does not.

Grady & Kipp (1985) extended Equation (A11) to solid fragmenting bodies with  $m = 2$  and 3. As one proof, they used a computational method to determine the size distributions resulting from a variety of different two-dimensional subdivisions involving horizontal, vertical, and randomly-oriented line segments. In all cases considered, except for Voronoi tessellations, their computational results approximately obtained Equation (A11). More recently, Cowan (2010) proved that Equation (A11) is exact in the limit of an infinite number of iterative line-segment-based subdivisions. As another proof, Grady & Kipp (1985) derived Equation (A11) for  $m = 2$  using a maximum entropy approach assuming that “every fragment has equal probability of being large or small,” provided only that the total cross-sectional area is correct.

2.) Using a maximum entropy approach with  $m = 3$ , Li & Tankin (1987) derived the following aerosol size distribution:

$$f(D) = \frac{1}{AD_{ref}} \left( \frac{D}{D_{ref}} \right)^2 \exp \left[ -a \left( \frac{D}{D_{ref}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (\text{A12a})$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with  $n = 3$  or equivalently:

$$n/m = 1 \quad (\text{A12b})$$

As noted earlier, Weibull size distributions are the same regardless of normalization. In other words, it makes no difference that Table 3 uses  $D_{avg}$  while Equation (A12) uses  $D_{ref}$ .

3.) For collision-driven fragmentation and coagulation in a pre-existing population of liquid droplets, a number of researchers have derived the following aerosol size distribution:

$$f(M) = \frac{1}{M_{ref}} \exp \left[ -\frac{M}{M_{ref}} \right] \quad (\text{A13a})$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 1 \quad (\text{A13b})$$

As noted earlier, it makes no difference that Table 3 uses  $M_{avg}$  while Equation (A13) uses  $M_{ref}$ .

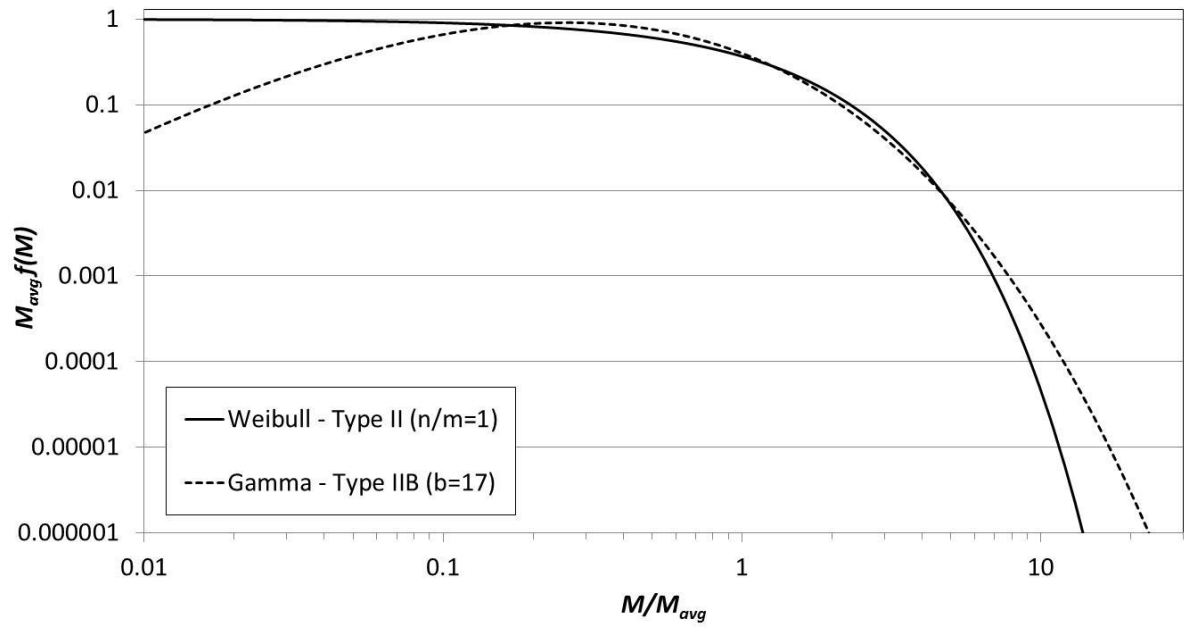
Equation (A13) is derived by finding the late-time analytic limit of the Population Balance Equation (PBE). For example, Mulholland & Baum (1980) and Lehtinen & Zachariah (2001) obtained this result for droplet coagulation, while Attarakih et. al. (2004) obtained this result for droplet fragmentation. Notice that, since  $n/m$  is the same, Equations (A11), (A12), and (A13) are all the same.

4.) Based on experimental results for fragmentation of liquid sheets, Bremond & Villermaux (2006) and Villermaux (2007) suggested a Type IIB Gamma size distribution with:

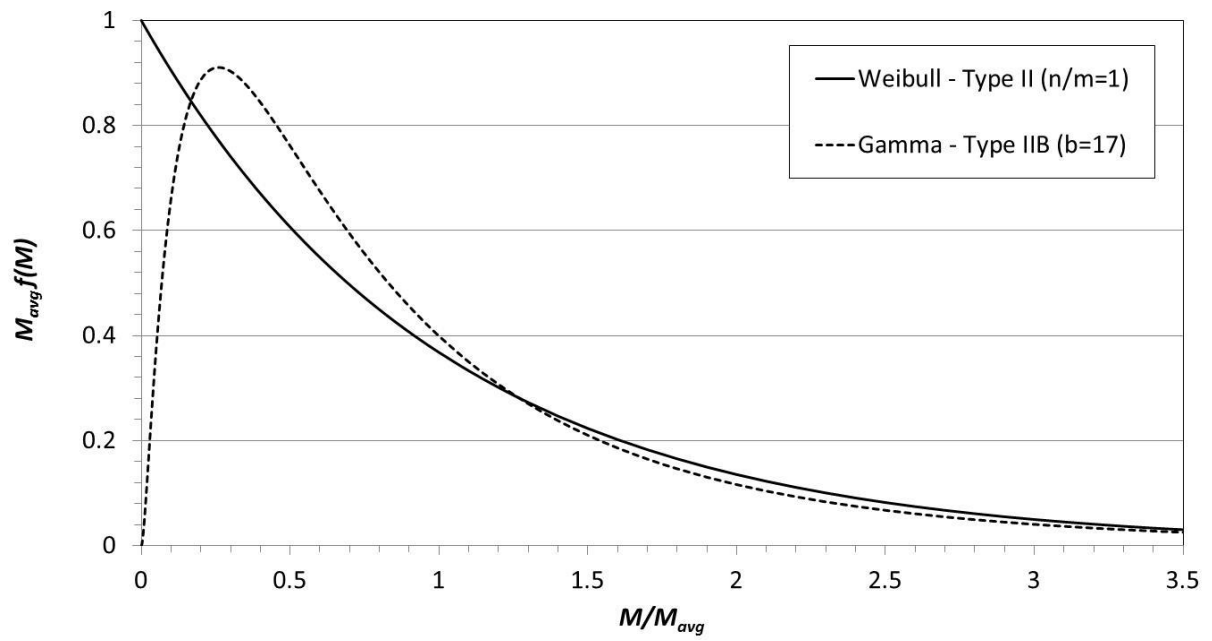
$$b = 10 \quad (\text{A14})$$

Figure A.3 compares the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equations (A11), (A12), and (A3) to the Type II Gamma size distribution given by Equation (A14). In this case, the two size distributions are fairly similar except at the extremes.



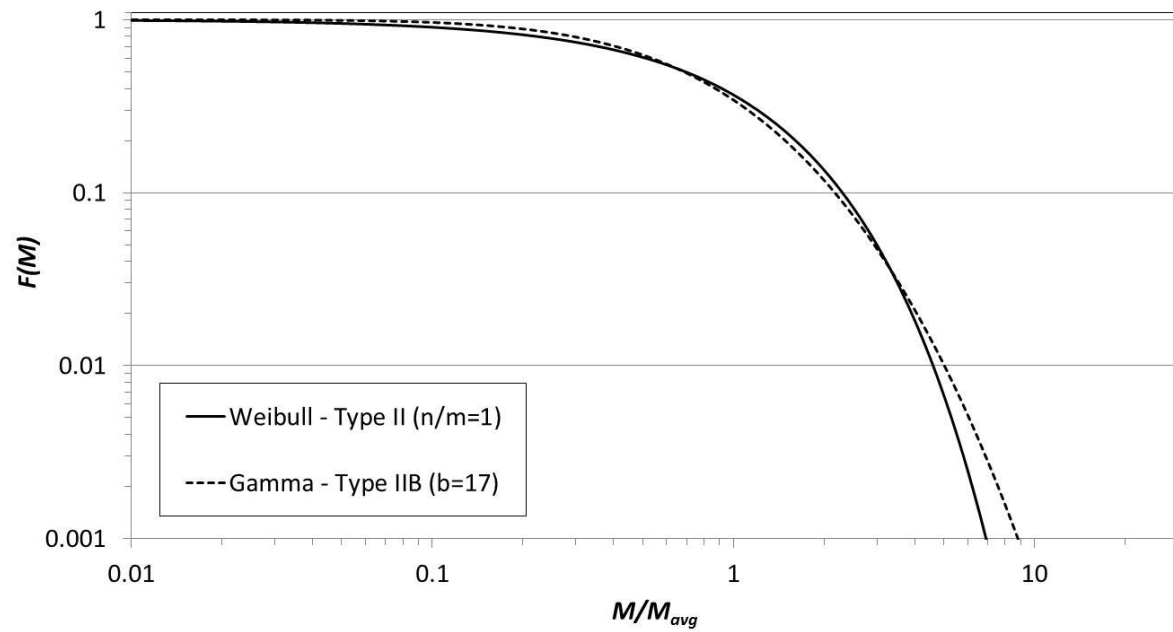


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

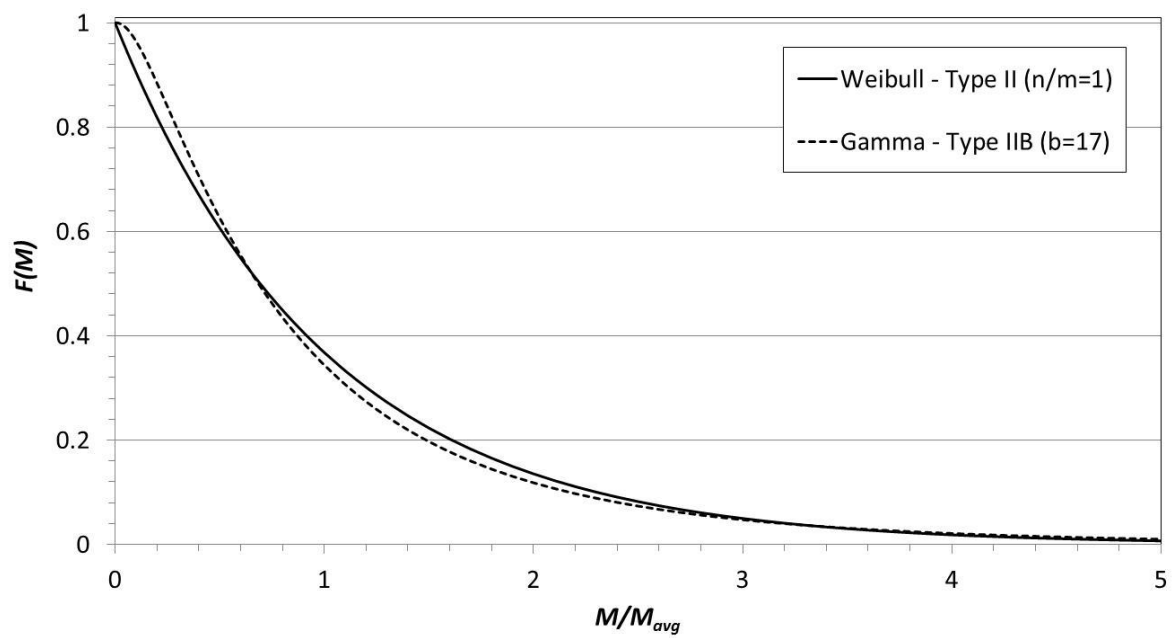


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.3. Type II Weibull vs. Gamma size distributions. Both distributions have  $R_M = 1.08 \pm 0.005$ .



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



(d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.3. (continued)

#### A.4. Example 4

This example concerns fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.130 \pm 0.005$ . These distributions are considered to have a medium-to-wide size spread.

1.) Based on experimental data for expanding cylindrical steel shells, Grady et. al. (2001) suggested the following fragment size distribution:

$$F(M) = \exp[-(M / M_{ref})^{0.67}] \quad (A15a)$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m \approx 2/3 \quad (A15b)$$

More specifically, Grady et. al. (2001) tested cylinders with lengths of either 10cm or 20cm. In either case, the wall thickness to inner radius ratio was 0.8. For as-received steel, the longer and shorter fragmenting cylinders obtained Type II Weibull size distributions with  $n/m = 0.85$  and  $n/m = 0.55$ , respectively. However, after heat treatment, the longer and shorter fragmenting cylinders both obtained  $n/m = 0.67$ .

2.) Based on experimental data for fragmentation of stretched ethanol ligaments, Marmottant & Villermaux (2004a) suggested a Type IIB Gamma size distribution with:

$$b = 6 \quad (A16)$$

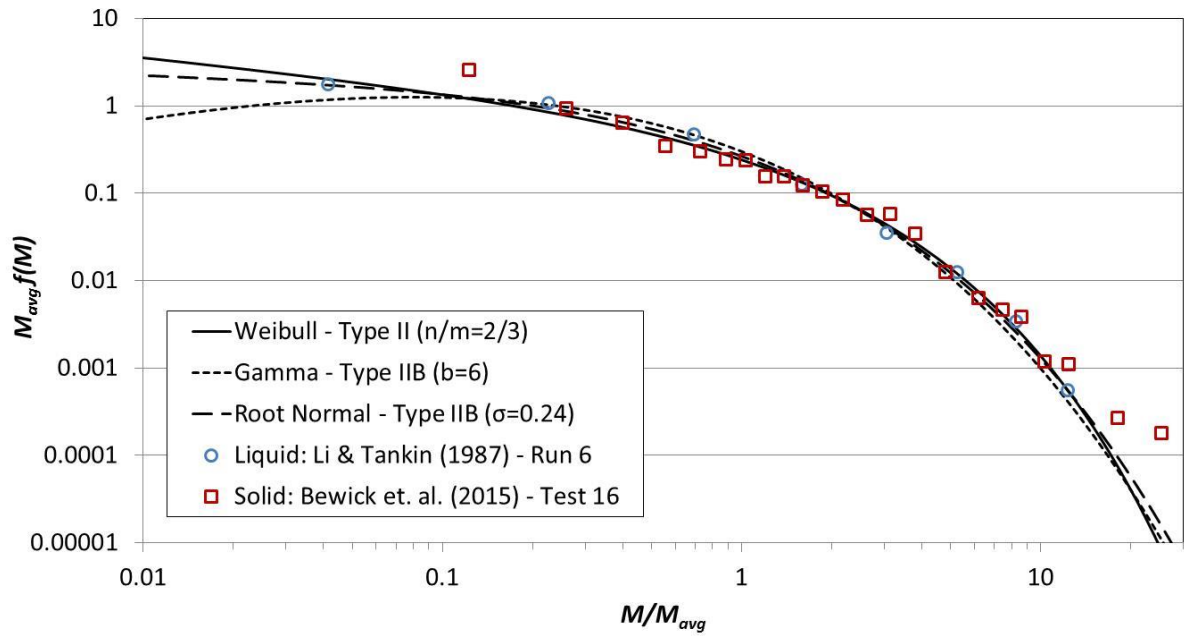
3.) Based on experimental results for round liquid jets in still air, Wu et. al. (1991) suggested a Type IA root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.1$  or equivalently:

$$\sigma \approx 0.17, \quad a = 1 \quad (A17)$$

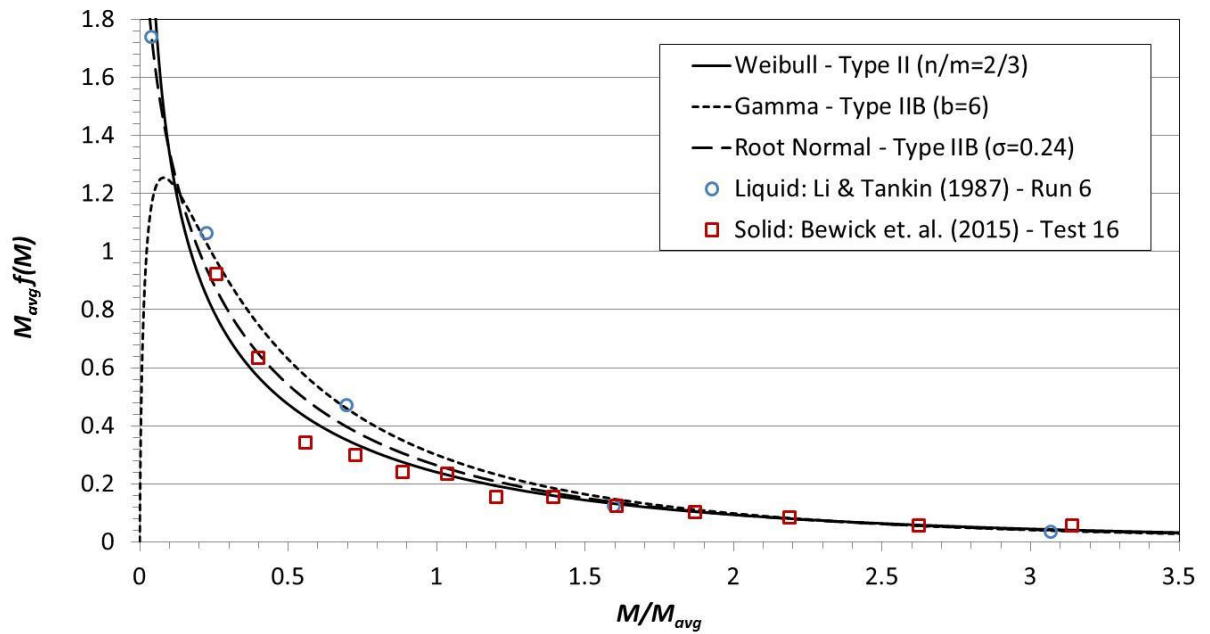
Laney (2015a) showed that this is approximately equal to a Type IIB root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.135$  or equivalently:

$$\sigma = 0.24, \quad a = 0.9708 \quad (A18)$$

Figure A.4 shows four views of the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equation (A15), the Type IIB Gamma size distribution given by Equation (A16), and the Type IIB root normal size distribution given by Equation (A18). These three size distributions are compared to each other and to experimental data for liquid atomization due to Li & Tankin (1987) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Bewick et. al. (2015). Bewick et. al. (2015) used an explosively-driven 6.5-inch-diameter shock tube to load a 1/4-inch-thick glass plate to a peak overpressure of approximately 500psi. In this case, the Weibull and root normal size distributions, which are nearly the same, appear to obtain somewhat better agreement with the experimental data than the Gamma distribution.

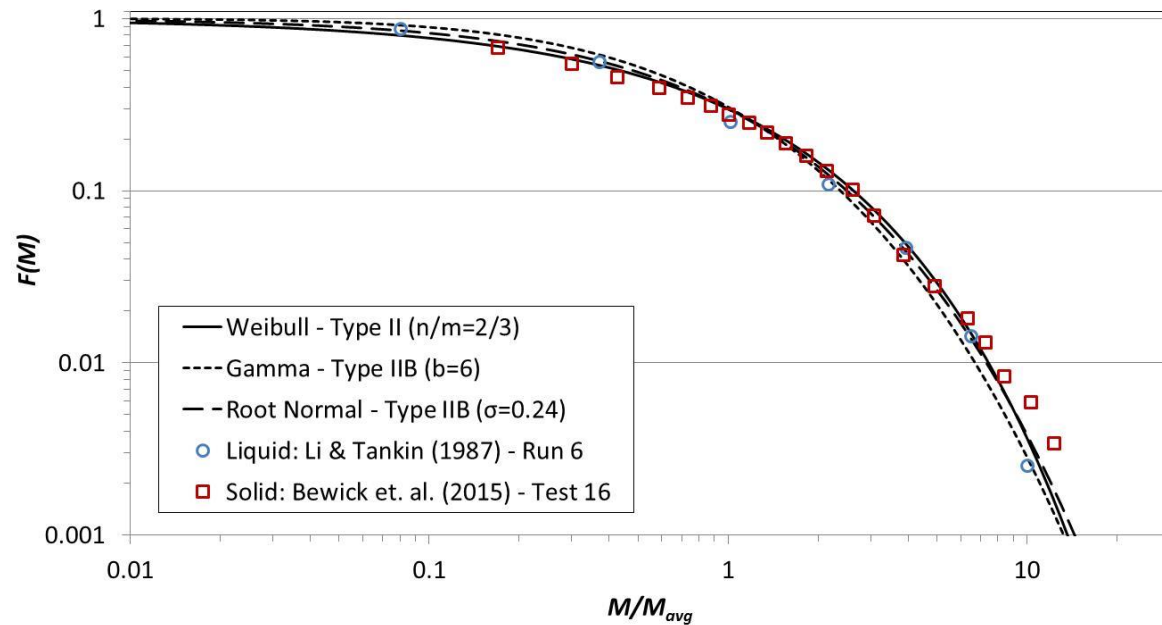


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

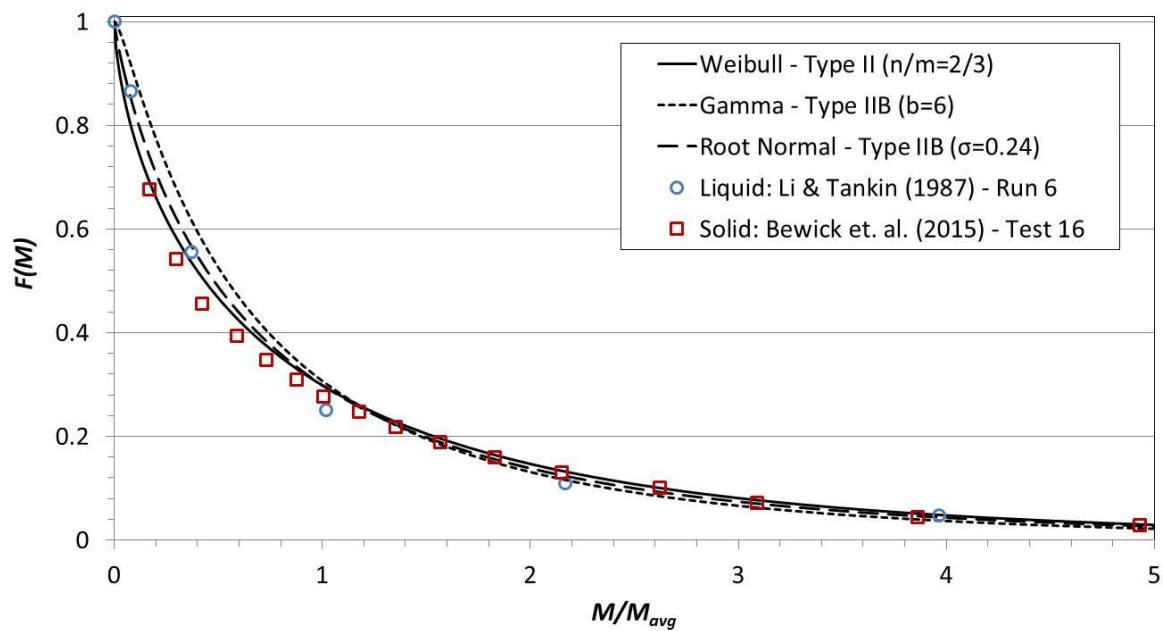


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.4. Type II Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions vs. experimental data for liquid atomization due to Li & Tankin (1987) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Bewick et. al. (2015). The Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions all have  $R_M = 1.13 \pm 0.005$ .



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



(d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.4. (continued)

## A.5 Example 5

This example concerns fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.2 \pm 0.008$ . These distributions are considered to have a wide size spread.

1.) For cylindrical high-explosives detonated inside cylindrical metal shells, Mott & Linfoot (1943) suggested the following fragment size distribution:

$$f(M) = \text{const.} \exp\left[-\text{const.} M^{1/2}\right] \frac{d(M^{1/2})}{dM} \quad (\text{A19a})$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with

$$n/m = 1/2 \quad (\text{A19b})$$

2.) Based on experimental data for “atomization of a liquid jet when a fast gas stream blows parallel to its surface,” Marmottant & Villermaux (2004b) suggested a Type IIB Gamma size distribution with:

$$b = 2.81 \quad (\text{A20})$$

Marmottant & Villermaux (2004b) relate the average fragment size  $D_{avg}$  to the average diameter  $D_0$  of ligaments on the surface of the jet. More specifically, they say “the number of convolutions is, at most, such that the final average diameter  $D_{avg}$  restores  $D_0$  or a fraction of  $D_0$ .” In some cases, they normalize with  $D_0$  rather than with  $D_{avg}$ .

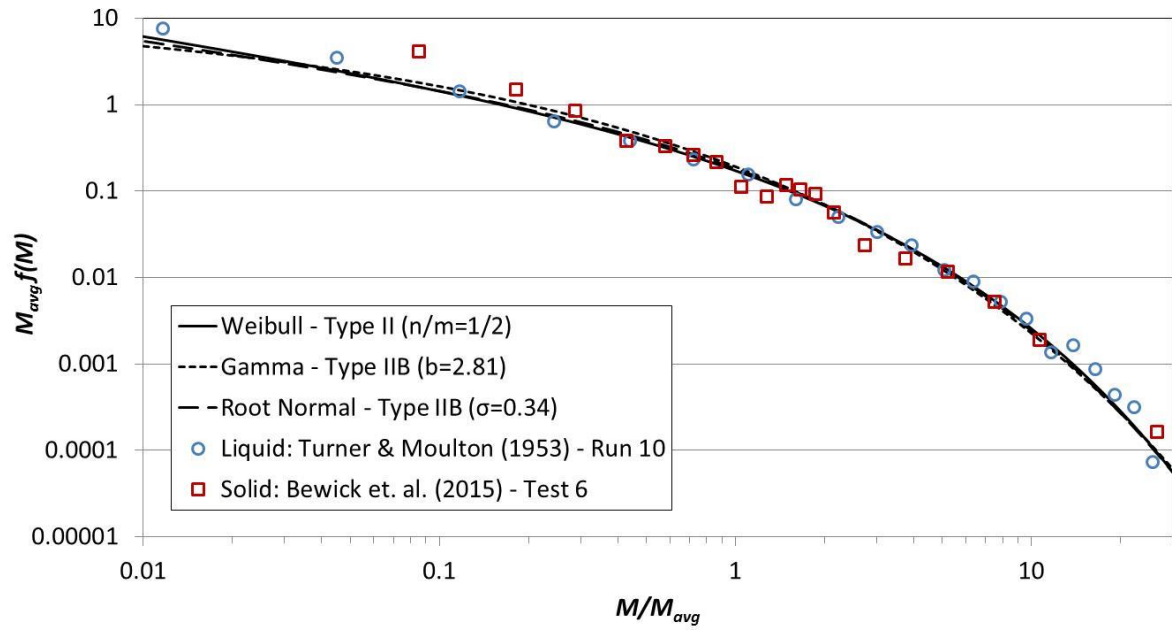
3.) Based on experimental results for atomization of black liquor, Empie. al. (1993, 1995) suggested a Type IA root normal size distribution with:

$$\sigma = 0.20, \quad a = 1 \quad (\text{A21})$$

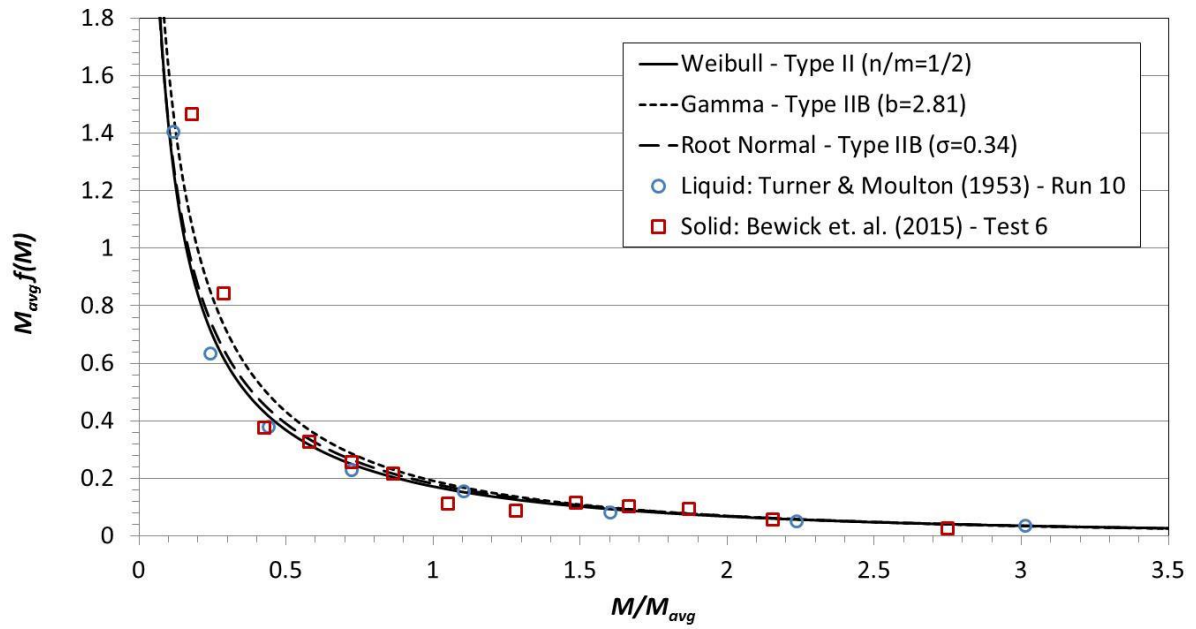
Laney (2015a) showed that this is approximately equal to a Type IIB root normal size distribution with:

$$\sigma = 0.34, \quad a = 0.9389 \quad (\text{A22})$$

Figure A.5 shows four views of the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equation (A19), the Type IIB Gamma size distribution given by Equation (A20), and the Type IIB root normal size distribution given by Equation (A22). These three size distributions are compared to each other and to experimental data for liquid atomization due to Turner & Moulton (1953) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Bewick et. al. (2015). Bewick et. al. (2015) used an explosively-driven 6.5-inch-diameter shock tube to load a 2-inch-thick precast concrete plate to a peak overpressure of approximately 4,000psi. In this case, the three size distributions agree with each other and with the experimental data to a rather remarkable degree.

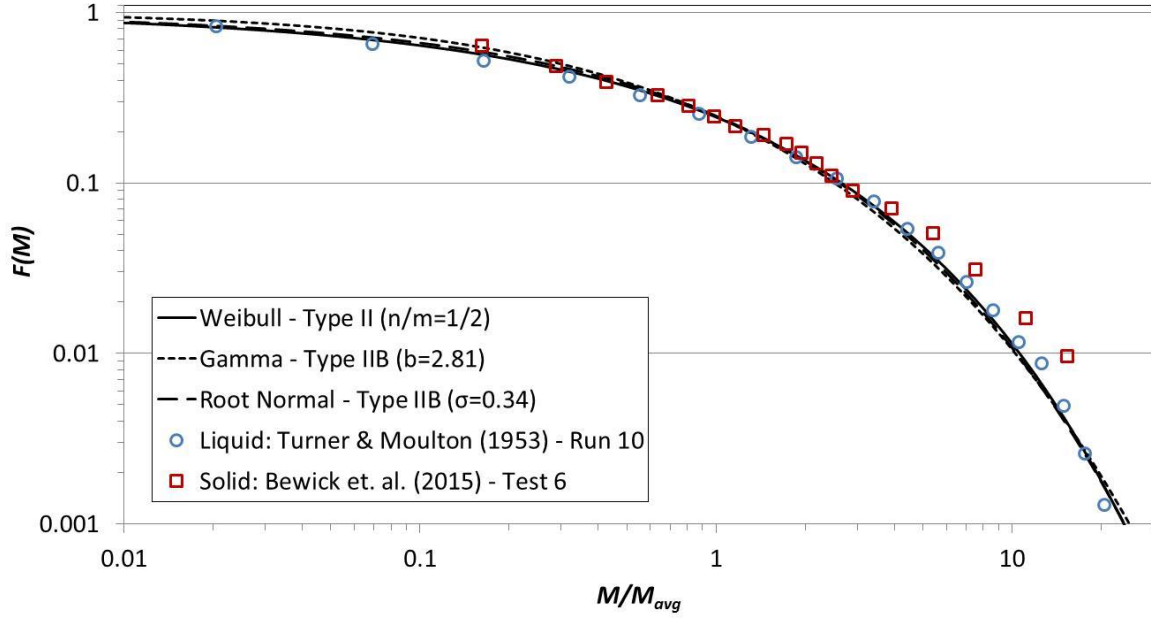


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

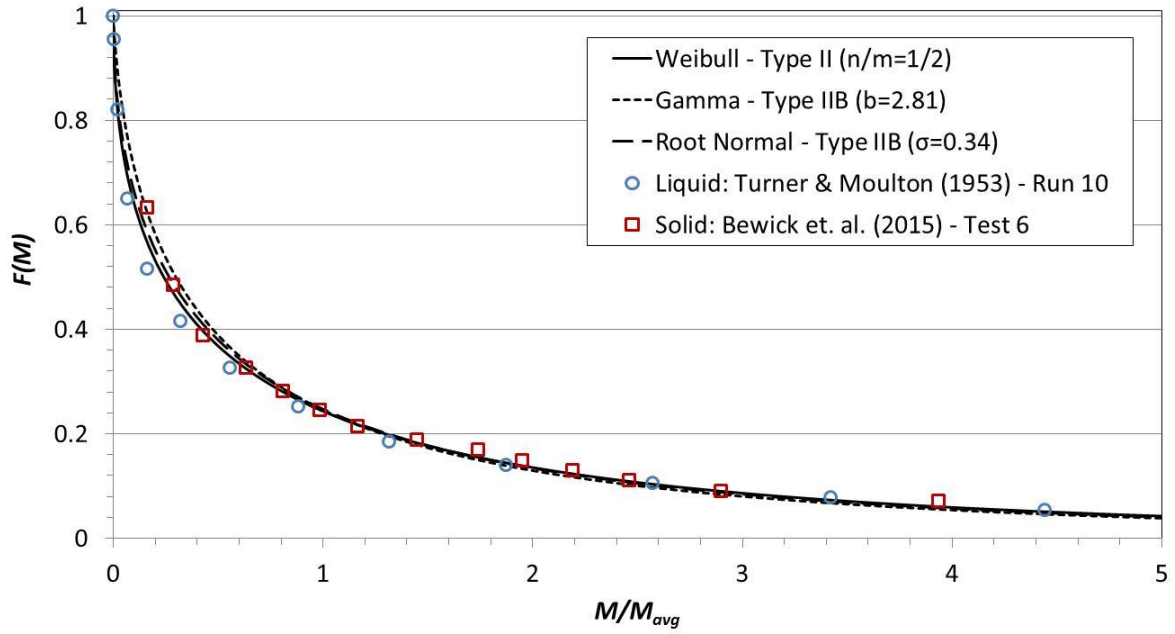


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

**Figure A.5. Type II Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions vs. experimental data for liquid atomization due to Turner & Moulton (1953) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Bewick et. al. (2015). The Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions all have  $R_M = 1.2 \pm 0.008$ .**



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



(d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.5. (continued)



## A.6 Example 6

This example concerns fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.25 \pm 0.012$ . These distributions are considered to have a wide-to-very-wide size spread.

1.) For cylindrical high-explosives detonated inside cylindrical metal shells, Cohen (1981) suggested a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 0.43 \quad (A23)$$

2.) Based on experimental results for acoustic breakup of thin liquid sheets, Mulmule et.al. (2010) suggested a Gamma size distribution with:

$$b = 2.2 \quad (A24)$$

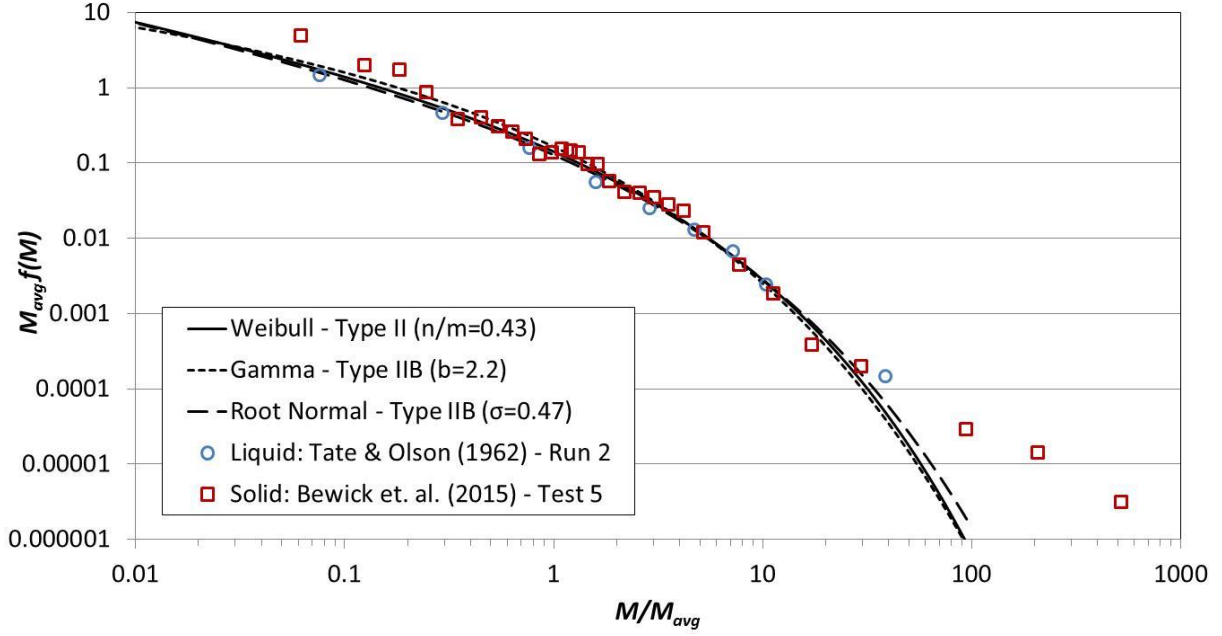
3.) Based on over 2,000 liquid atomization experiments, Simmons (1977) suggested a Type IA root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.2$  or equivalently:

$$\sigma \approx 0.238, \quad a = 1 \quad (A25)$$

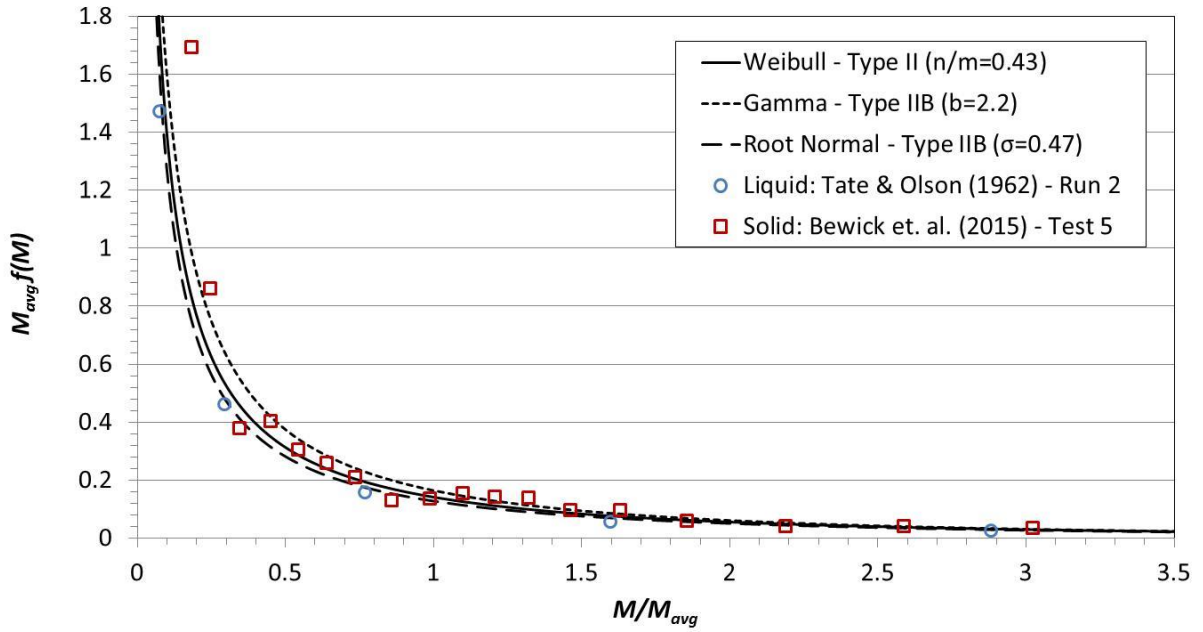
Laney (2015a) showed that this is approximately equal to a Type IIB root normal size distribution with  $R_M = 1.253$  or equivalently:

$$\sigma = 0.47, \quad a = 0.8650 \quad (A26)$$

Figure A.6 shows four views of the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equation (A23), Type II Gamma size distributions given by Equation (A24), and the Type IIB root normal size distribution given by Equation (A26). These three size distributions are compared to each other and to experimental data for liquid atomization due to Tate & Olson (1962) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Bewick et. al. (2015). Bewick et. al. (2015) used an explosively-driven 6.5-inch-diameter shock tube to load a 2-inch-thick precast concrete plate to a peak overpressure of approximately 1,500psi. In this case, the three size distributions agree well with each other and with the experimental data, except for the power law tail in the solid fragmentation data.

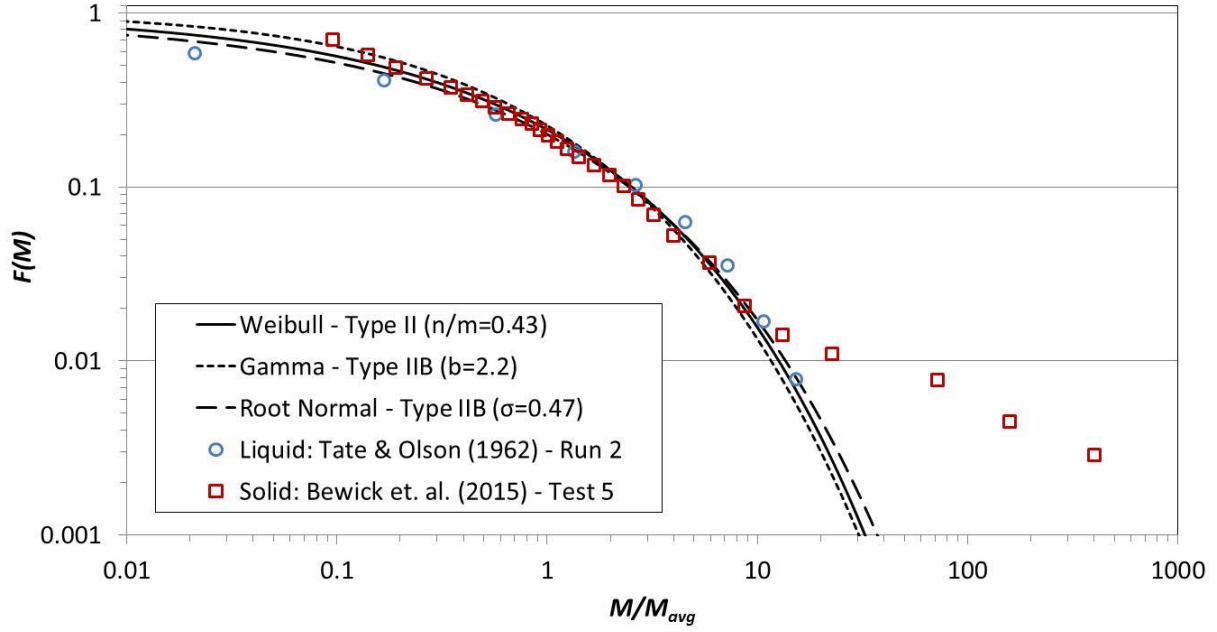


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

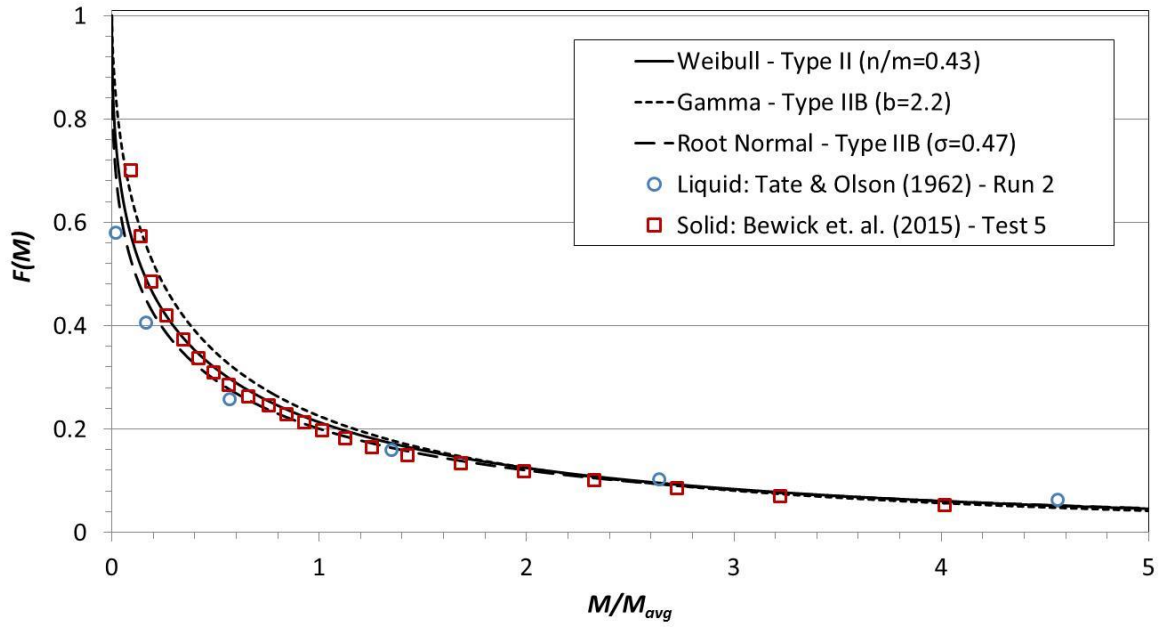


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

**Figure A.6. Type II Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions vs. experimental data for liquid atomization due to Tate & Olson (1962) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Bewick et. al. (2015). The Weibull, Gamma, and root normal size distributions all have  $R_M = 1.25 \pm 0.012$ .**



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



(d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.6. (continued)

## A.7 Example 7

This example concerns fragment size distributions with  $R_M = 1.333$  exactly. These distributions are considered to have a very wide size spread.

1.) Based on test results for cylindrical high-explosives detonated inside cylindrical metal shells, Mott & Linfoot (1943) suggested the following fragment size distribution:

$$f(M) = \text{const.} \exp\left[-\text{const.} M^{1/3}\right] \frac{d(M^{1/3})}{dM} \quad (\text{A27a})$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with

$$n/m = 1/3 \quad (\text{A27b})$$

2.) Based on measurements of raindrops with  $m = 3$ , Marshall & Palmer (1948) suggested the following size distribution:

$$f(D) = \text{const.} \exp[-\Lambda D] \quad (\text{A28a})$$

where the constant  $\Lambda$  depends on the rate of rainfall. By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 1/3 \quad (\text{A28b})$$

Marshall & Palmer (1948) argue that this “distribution ... is the type that would obtain if growing droplets were in continual danger of disintegration, the likelihood of disintegration being proportional to the increment in diameter or in distance of fall.” Building on this remark, Villermaux & Bossa (2009) argue that this size distribution can be “understood from the fragmentation products of non-interacting, isolated drops.” Notice that since  $n/m$  is the same, Equations (A27) and (A28) are the same.

3.) Using maximum entropy theory with  $m = 3$ , Cousin et. al. (1996) derived a two-parameter family of size distributions. Based on experimental data for pressure-swirl atomizers, Cousin et. al. (1996) focused specifically on the following size distribution:

$$f_M(D) = \text{const.} \left(\frac{D}{D_{ref}}\right)^3 \exp[-\text{const.} D] \quad (\text{A29a})$$

By Table 3, this is a Type II Weibull size distribution with:

$$n/m = 1/3 \quad (\text{A29b})$$

As usual, it makes no difference that Table 3 uses  $D_{avg}$  while Equation (A29) uses  $D_{ref}$ .

Notice that, since  $n/m$  is the same, Equations (A27), (A28), and (A29) are the same. This relationship has not been previously observed.

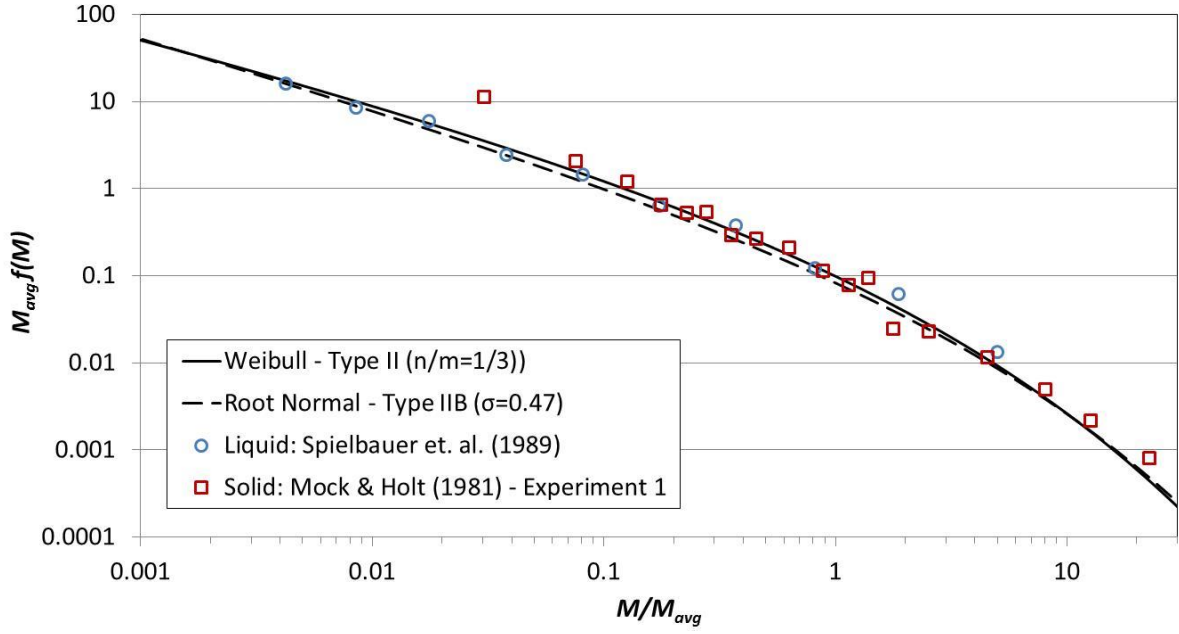
4.) Based on experimental results for atomization of black liquor, Spielbauer et. al. (1989) suggested a Type IA root normal size distribution with:

$$\sigma = 0.286, \quad a = 1 \quad (\text{A30})$$

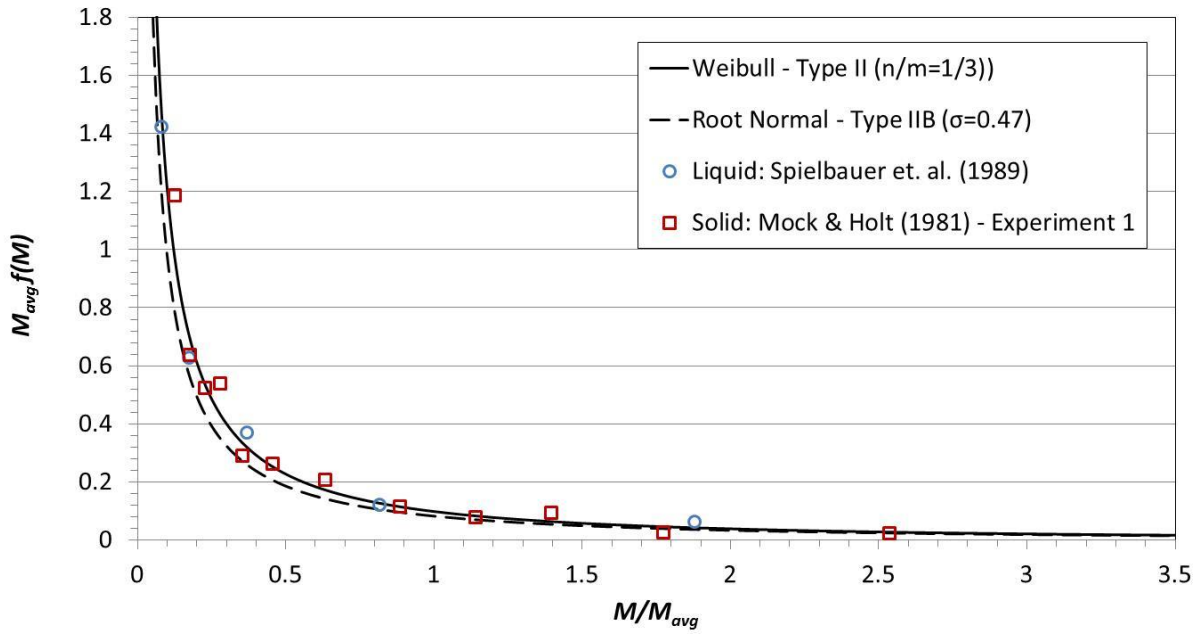
Laney (2015a) showed that this is approximately equal to a Type IIB root normal size distribution with:

$$\sigma = 0.72, \quad a = 0.5738 \quad (\text{A31})$$

Figure A.7 shows four views of the Type II Weibull size distribution given by Equations (A27), (A28), and (A29) and the Type IIB root normal size distribution given by Equation (A31). These size distributions are compared to each other and to experimental data for liquid atomization due to Spielbauer et. al. (1989) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Mock & Holt (1981, 1983). Mock and Holt (1981, 1983) detonated a 2.75kg cylindrical charge of Composition B high-explosive inside a 4.5 x 8 inch cylindrical iron shell. In this case, the size distributions agree well with each other and with the experimental data.

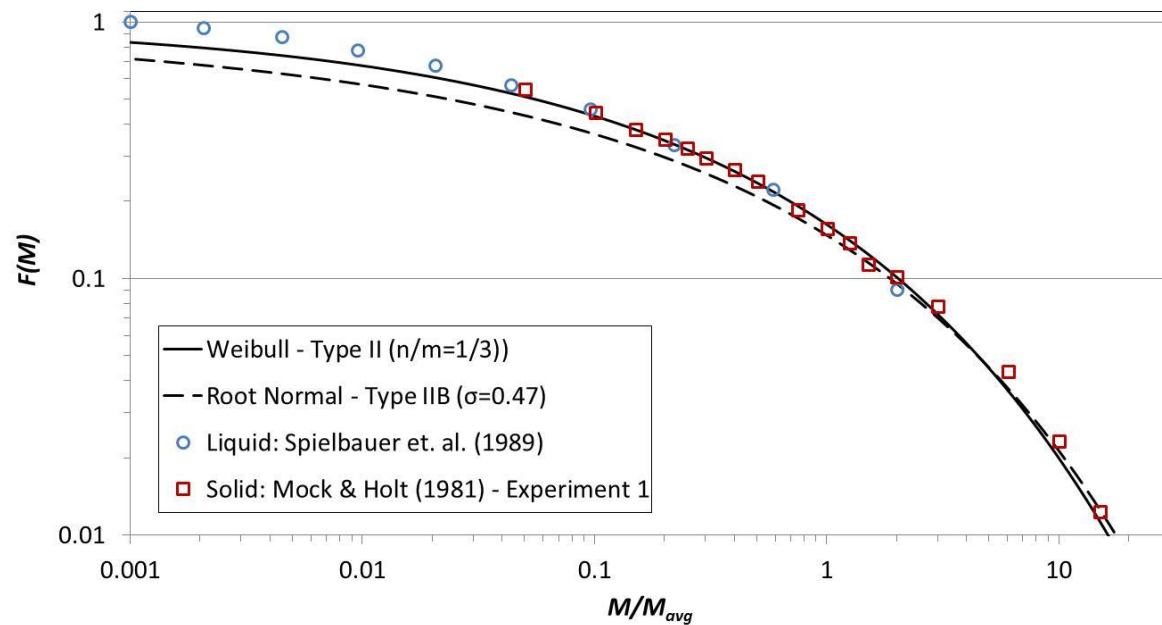


(a.)  $f(M)$  in the log-log plane

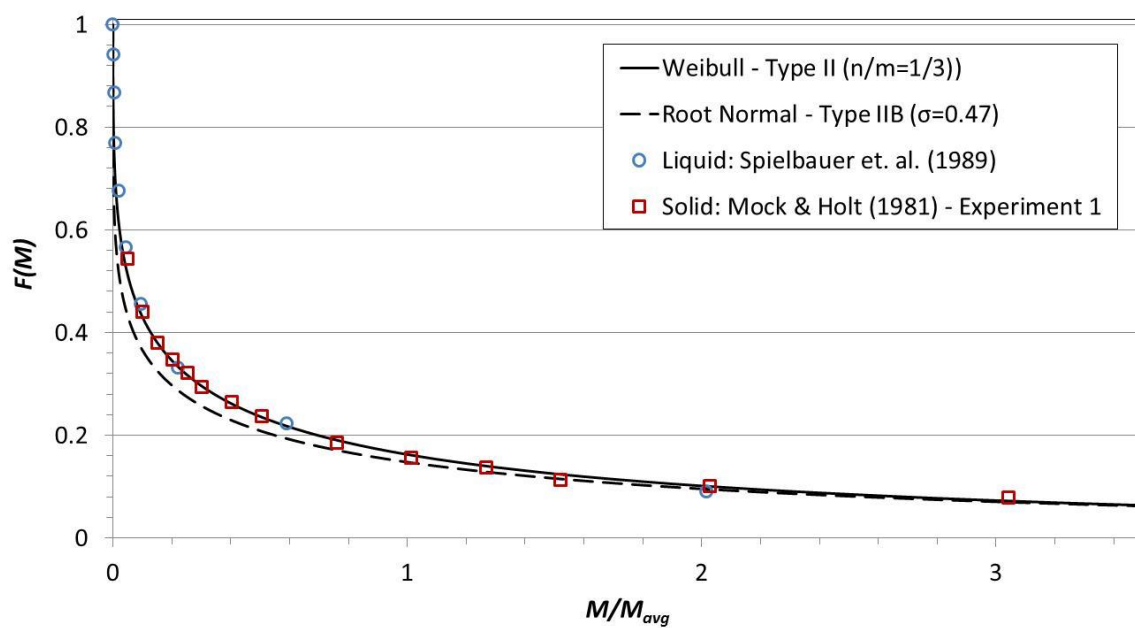


(b.)  $f(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

**Figure A.7.** Type II Weibull and root normal size distributions vs. experimental data for liquid atomization due to Spielbauer et. al. (1989) and experimental data for solid fragmentation due to Mock & Holt (1981). The Weibull and root normal size distributions have  $R_M = 1.333$  exactly.



(c.)  $F(M)$  in the log-log plane



d.)  $F(M)$  in the linear-linear plane

Figure A.7. (continued)

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